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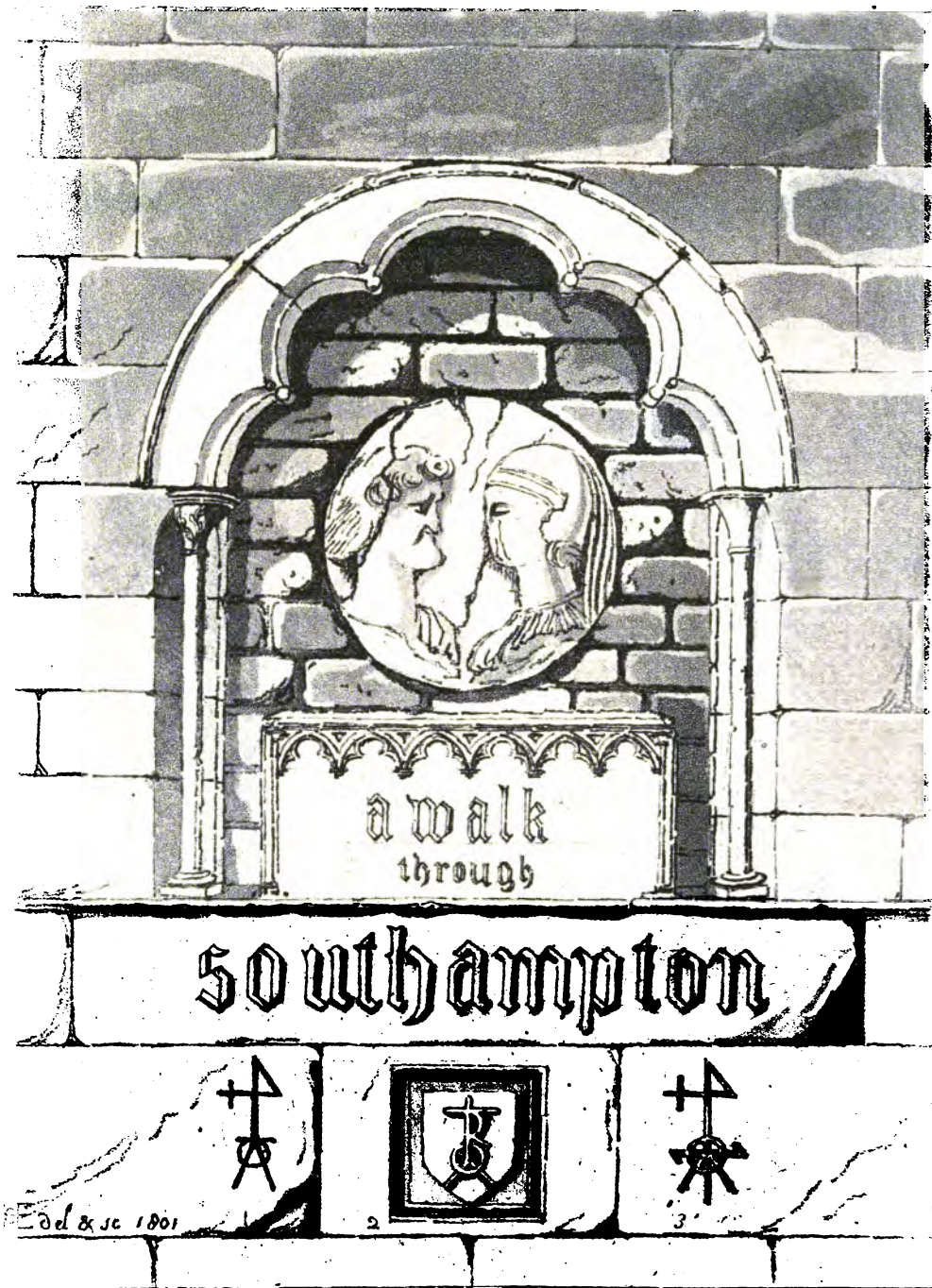
Mr. Henry Johnson

Winchester



COB
SOUTHAMPTON

ENGLEFIELD



A.

Walk through Southampton.

INCLUDING A SURVEY OF ITS

ANTIQUITIES.

BY SIR H. C. ENGLEFIELD, BART., F.R.S., F.A.S.

A NEW EDITION,

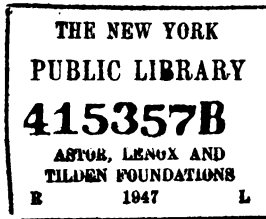
WITH NOTES BY JOHN BULLAR.

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MDCCCXLI.

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ADVERTISEMENT TO THE PRESENT EDITION.

FORTY years ago, the learned and accomplished Author of the following pages accepted, with singular indulgence, the suggestions of a young person, who was then his "Anonymous Correspondent;" who subsequently, on an introduction to him personally, was received with a courtesy which he cannot forget; and who now, after the lapse of so long a time, has survived to add a few remarks to the present edition; such as had become necessary to modern readers in consequence of the altered state of his native town.

JOHN BULLAR.

August 11th, 1841.

TO THE READER.

It was at first intended, in the following pages, merely to give an account of several curious remains of antiquity existing in the Town of Southampton, and which had either been totally unnoticed, or very slightly mentioned, in the descriptions of that place hitherto published; and the title of *A Walk* was chosen as expressive of what was intended to be done in the work. In compliance with the wishes of some who saw the manuscript, and to whose observations and communications no small portion of whatever merit it may possess, is due,—I have stepped beyond the strict limits of description, and have ventured to enter a little into the wide and doubtful field of antiquarian research: but I still hope that my readers will bear in mind the title of the book, and not for a moment suppose that I aspire at the dignity of a historian of the place; a task for which neither my researches nor abilities have by any means qualified me. The praise of accuracy is all to which I lay any claim, and I shall be very happy, if what is here given to the public excites some person better qualified for the task, to extract from the records of the town, and those of the bishopric, the curious and copious information which they certainly contain.

To the Mayor and Corporation of the Town my best thanks are due, for the liberal manner in which they permitted me to inspect their regalia

and archives ; and I should do violence to my own feelings, if I passed unnoticed the assistance which I have received from an anonymous correspondent, whose singular modesty has not, perhaps, totally concealed him from my knowledge, and to whose accurate pen the investigators of the beautiful environs of the town of Southampton are, I suspect, already obliged for one of the best digested, and most instructive, of those useful tracts, commonly known under the name of Guides.*

H. C. ENGLEFIELD.

Dec. 1st, 1801.

* The book thus alluded to, bore the title of "A Companion in a Tour round Southampton : " it is now out of print.

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A WALK

THROUGH

SOUTHAMPTON.

BEFORE we enter on a description of the beautiful and ancient town of Southampton, it may not be improper to say a few words on the derivation of its name, on which antiquaries are by no means agreed : some having supposed that it took its origin from the river An, or Anton, near whose southern extremity it stands ; while others have merely deduced it from the word Ham (a home or place of residence), which so often enters into the composition of the names of our towns, sometimes with and sometimes without the adjunct of Ton. Ham in Surrey, and Hampton in Middlesex and Herefordshire, Northampton, and near it Southam, are sufficient examples of this mode of composition ; and it is rather curious that the two last quoted names should in this place be exactly inverted in Southampton and Northam. How long Northam has borne its present name, I have no means of investigating ; but it seems evident that it can only have received it from its situation with respect to Southampton. Yet, probable as this really appears, I cannot help inclining to the sentiment of those who derive its more honourable appellation from the beautiful stream

which ornaments the central parts of the county, and indisputably gives its name, not only to numerous places in its course, but to the county itself. The town of Andover, the village of Abbot's-An, the farm of Northanton and hamlet of Southanton, both near Overton, and not far from the eastern source of the river *Anton*, or rather *Ant*, are abundant proofs of the probability of this etymology: and it may be said, that, by a very natural confusion of two words so similar (particularly in composition) as An and Ham, Northam, from its position with respect to Southampton, may easily have received its name, under the idea that Southampton was formed from Ham, not An.

Whether the *Antona* of Tacitus was the Southampton Water, has been the subject of controversy into which it is unnecessary here to enter; it is enough for our present purpose, that the Roman *Clauentum* is evidently formed from the An or Ant, which I conceive to have been the British name of this river and estuary. To this, the Romans, as was their usual practice, added the Latin termination, and the Roman name of the river became the *Entum* or *Antum*; and possibly, by an easy change, the *Antona*.

When in the Saxon times Southampton became a place of consequence, the Ant again gave name to the new town, with the Saxon addition of *tun* or *ton*, and we accordingly find *Antun* or *Hantun* to have been the early name of the place; as *Wilton*, in the next county, was formed from the river Will or Willy: and this I conceive to be much more consonant to the Saxon mode of formation of names, than the supposition that the town was called *Anton*, from the river *Anton*, without any adjunct, of which, I believe, there is scarce an example.

But although the consequence of *Clauentum* evidently declined as the new *Hantun* increased, yet it was by no means deserted; for there are large remains yet existing of a magnificent Saxon or Norman fortress or castellated mansion, built on the ancient Roman wall of Bittern: and as the new town is situated directly south of the old one, it was natural that it should be distinguished from it by the prefix of *South*. Thus it appears to me that the name of Southampton was gradually formed: but these ideas are given (as most etymologies must be) rather as matters of conjecture than

certainty. By a sort of retrograde corruption not uncommon, the river came, from the town seated on its bank, to be called in latter times the Hampton river; and the county itself Hantunscyre, as well as its more proper appellation of Hantescyre: and afterwards by a most preposterous confusion (probably suggested by the similarity of the name to Northamptonshire), the county was called the county of Southampton. When this last corruption was introduced, I cannot decide; but it is very ancient.

Too much has been perhaps already said on this subject, for a book which pretends to no deep research; too little certainly for a formal dissertation on the ancient history of the place: to more laborious inquirers the etymology of *Bittern* and the history of the successive changes of that very ancient place are left: and it is probable that the records of the see of Winchester may furnish much curious matter on this subject, as *Bittern* has ever been, and still remains, a capital manor, and seat of courts holden by the officers of that bishopric.

The town of Southampton is situated on the extreme point of the high gravelly bank which separates the course of the Itchen river from the estuary of the Test, or Anton water. By this happy choice, the whole town, though almost surrounded with water, enjoys the advantages of the driest situation; and the fall of level in every direction, keeps the streets constantly free from damp and filth. Besides these essential benefits, a great proportion of the houses enjoys a view more or less extensive of the beautiful country adjacent; and as the gravelly soil lies on a bed of clay, numerous wells afford a copious supply of water fit for most domestic purposes, if not always excellent for drinking.(a)

(a) A very fine and copious spring, which was protected by a large building bearing considerable marks of antiquity, till lately existed in the meadow to the north of the town: it bore the name of Houndwell. The tunnel cut about two hundred yards to the north of the spring for the new canal, has intercepted the vein which supplied it, and it now is very nearly dry.

[The old building here mentioned, was a rather rude structure, with a huge sloping roof. It bore the name of Houndwell House. Two springs of water flowed into it from leaden pipes; one on the north side, the other on the south. There was a considerable difference in the water of these two springs: one of them bore a popular reputation as being "good for the

As, however, the principal object of this essay is to point out the objects of antiquity, or other remarkable buildings, which may attract the notice of a stranger, enough has been said on the general situation of the town ; and we shall now proceed to a survey, first of the walls and gates, and secondly of the streets, together with the churches and other buildings observable in them.

The principal and indeed only approach to the town from the land, is by an extensive and well-built suburb ; in which nothing occurs worthy of remark^(a), excepting a large Elm tree, on the left side of the road, which

eyes :” and it was often resorted to, on summer mornings, by persons who thus, at any rate, secured the advantage of cool and copious early ablutions, which probably always have their use. It appears, from an ancient presentment by the Court Leet, made towards the end of the sixteenth century, that this building had long been used as a public wash-house, and was furnished with troughs, &c., for this purpose. When the tunnel of the canal had turned away the springs, the old house became a nuisance not to be particularised ; and the Commissioners of the town water-works sold the materials and the site. The building which now occupies the same space, was reared with the utmost haste from a timber frame-work previously prepared : the person who built it being apprehensive that the public would not permit the spot to be thus occupied. A friend informs me that he has seen a public washing-place of this kind in Alderney, one of the Channel Islands.—ED.]

(a) It may not be improper here to mention, that the Canal which is cut from Red-bridge to Southampton, and which passes

close along the shore of the river, quits the beach about half a mile above the town, and is carried in a subterraneous trunk under this suburb. It emerges to the day in the Houndwell meadow, and branches north and south. The northern branch meets the Itchen at Northam : the southern fills the ditch of the eastern wall of the town, and passing under a large arch cut for it through the bottom of the Gaol Tower, opens into the Southampton river immediately beyond it. This work, after a vast expense, has long remained in an imperfect state.

[This canal, begun about 44 years ago, on an estimate at least one half below the sum which would have been required to complete it, has long been finally abandoned ; though still traceable in the Houndwell meadow, by the nuisance which it has left there. It may be traced also, immediately to the south of Houndwell, in the odd assortment of buildings which fill up what was once the agreeable remnant of the eastern moat, a long narrow strip of green meadow, skirted with aged elms, forming a shady walk close by the town, and affording a complete view of the antique fortifications

is still called the Pound Elm, from the ancient pound of the town, which once occupied that spot. This suburb was separated from the town by a very broad and deep ditch ; which has been filled up within the memory of several persons yet living. In the plan of the town annexed to Speed's map of the Isle of Wight, the northern and north-eastern part of the ditch appears to have been double, having a low bank between the two fosses. On this bank, to the east of the Bar-gate, butts are marked for the purpose of exercising the youth in archery. This ditch seems to have been originally cut so deep as to admit the sea at high water, and thereby completely insulate the town. Hanover Buildings to the east, and Orchard-street to the west, of the Bar-gate, occupy the site of the ditch ; which was crossed by an arched bridge leading to the large and extremely beautiful gate called emphatically the Bar. This, it may be observed, was anciently the name of those edifices now called Gates ; while the word *Gate* signified the street or road leading to the *Bar*. At York this ancient phraseology prevails to this day : Mickle-gate leads to Mickle-gate Bar, Walm-gate to Walm-gate Bar, and so of the rest. To return to the Bar : its north front is of rather uncommon form, being a sort of semi-octagon, flanked with two lower semicircular turrets, and crowned with large and handsome open machicollations. The arch of entrance is highly pointed, and adorned with a profusion of mouldings, which now end abruptly ; a part of the flanks of the arch having been cut away to enlarge the carriage way, which was inconveniently narrow. In ancient times, the Corporation received a toll for goods, wares, and merchandises, passing over the bridge at Bar-gate : and, by an entry in their journals of 1679, it appears that this was given up in consideration of a sum of money, raised by the inhabitants of this and the neighbouring towns.

Above the arch is a row of elegant sunk pannels, alternately square and

that told a story of past ages and manners, not unworthy so to have been preserved. But the whole company of projectors of the canal, and all their officers, having become defunct, a kind of scramble for the ground

which once formed the eastern moat, has led to its occupation in the manner now to be seen in the precincts of what is called Canal Place, and its continuation southward.—ED.]

oblong. In each of the squares is a shield in relief, painted with a coat of arms. The bearings on these shields are as follow, beginning from the left :—

1. Argent, a cross, gules. England.
2. Sable, three swords in pile. Paulet.
3. Argent, a chevron, gules, between three griffins' head erased, or. Tylney. Frederick Tylney, Esq. represented Southampton in parliament, in 1702.
4. Or, two chevrons argent, between three shamrocks or trefoils, azure or vert. Lewis. Thomas Lewis, Esq. represented the town in parliament, in 1715. He was a considerable benefactor to Southampton.
5. Argent, fretty, azure, a canton ermine. Noel.
6. Azure, a chevron or between three owls or. Hewit.
7. Gules bordured and crossed or, engrailed : four martlets. Unknown.
8. Parted per fesse, argent and sable, a pale counterchanged and three bears saliant sable, two and one counterchanged, muzzled and chained, or. Mill.
9. Azure, a cross saltire, argent. Scotland.

And on two shields below, in the spandrils of the arch :

10. Azure, a chevron or, between three leopards' heads erased or. Wyndham. Sir Charles Wyndham was M.P. for Southampton in 1679. Two of his name were recorders of the town : one chosen in 1690 ; the other, his brother, in 1696.
11. Or, a chevron gules, charged with three pellets or. Unknown.

None of these arms is of an ancient date ; as the coat of Mill has the baronet's hand on it, and the creation of that family was in 1619. The arms of Scotland also prove that these ornaments were added to the gate after the accession of James I.(a) It seems probable that these shields

(a) On the fronts of the two great buttresses which flank the arch of entrance, are placed paintings at full length, and larger than the life, of two warriors, one

of whom bears the name of "Bevois," the other of Ascupart. Although these figures, when compared with the gate, are modern, yet, as they have certainly held their pre-

have at times had a change of arms, in compliment of particular benefactors.

There are no means of ascertaining when they were first put up ; but, in 1702, there is an order "that the king's arms, scutcheons, gyants, and the dial, at Bargate, be repaired." At that time, we may presume, some other arms gave way to those of Tylney, he having then presented to the Corporation a grand silver tankard, washed with gold.

The footways on each side are modern perforations through the old flanking towers, and the brickwork entirely covers the ancient walls ; but by inspecting the sides of the principal arch, it seems as if there had formerly been arches opening laterally into these towers : if so, the scenery must have been singularly magnificent. The arches and front hitherto described, are (though probably four hundred and fifty years old) modern, when compared with the central part of the gate ; which is of early Norman work, if not more ancient than the Conquest. Its plain and massive round arches, which are considerably wider than the outer pointed one, are a full proof of this. Within this most ancient part, another addition has been made towards the town, forming a plain and flat front ; which, though never very handsome, was much injured in the beginning of the century, by a most awkward attempt to adorn it. The points of its ancient windows are obliterated, a painted rustic covers the old wall, and queen Anne, in long embroidered stays, and a gown whose folds would disgrace even the barbarity of Saxon sculpture, exhibits her jolly fat face from a Gothic niche in the centre.* The battlements have however escaped the ravage of

sent places during one hundred and twenty-five years, and are in a poem of that antiquity spoken of as at that time by no means novelties, it might seem an omission not to mention them. The connection between Bevis and Southampton seems of a very ancient date. Whether the old metrical romance of Sir Bevis was founded on any fact, I am not prepared to say ; but the occurrence of the name of Bevis on the

admiralty seal, hereafter more particularly described, proves that the knight was in no small estimation in the town at an early date. It is probable that the figures on the Bar-gate were placed there at the time that the arms just described were painted on the ancient shields. The style of the paintings fully proves that they could not have been of a date much anterior to James I.

[* This statue was removed nearly thirty

improvement, and an ancient alarm bell hangs in a niche formed for it, between two of them.(a)

Over the arches is a spacious town-hall, fifty-two feet long and twenty-one feet wide, to which we ascend by a commodious stone staircase. Towards the top of this, a large pointed arch is visible. The hall is lighted by the four windows to the street, which withinside retain their ancient form, and are rather handsome. At the bottom of the hall, another pointed arch appears, which opens into a small lumber room: the face of the arch in this room is very handsome. The court of justice is not older than queen Elizabeth's time. A room for the grand jury communicates with the hall, and is lighted by windows towards the suburb. The grand-jury room is entirely modernised, but a small and dark room adjoining has in it a very curious round arch, with ornamental smaller segments of circles within it, and a small column on each jamb, in the style of the early Gothic.

The leads are spacious, and from them the gradual increase of this noble

years ago, and was replaced by one of George III.: a gift of the late marquis of Lansdown, elder brother of the present, then a resident in the town. It is a cast in artificial stone. The Roman military dress of the figure often puzzles strangers, and is certainly most inappropriate as to conveying an impression of the sovereign thus personified; whose familiar habits had identified him, to the generation to whom he was known, either as an old English gentleman of the most unassuming appearance, or as marked by the stiff military dress in which he was seen at reviews, which is so faithfully exhibited in the equestrian statue near Charing-cross.—ED.]

(a) A very singular sculptured stone is inserted into the wall of this front, just above the ground, and close to the right-hand

jamb of the centre arch. It appears to have been the exercise of some apprentice carver, in the early part of the twelfth century, and is covered with faces cut in a very rude style, of different sizes, to the number of eighteen, great and small. One of these is a man's face with a forked beard; another, a female, with a square coif hanging down on each side. These faces much resemble those which so commonly support the labels of arches, and are sometimes, though more rarely, found under brackets, in the sort of cornices which run round the exterior of the Norman and earliest pointed arched churches. The length of the stone is fifteen inches, and its height is nine inches. As it stands upside-down in the wall, and is much corroded, it may easily, though in so conspicuous a situation, escape

gate is easily traced. The original gate* is flanked by two semicircular towers towards the country: between these, and projecting beyond them, the present beautiful exterior front was added: the front towards the town appears the most modern of all. The two lions sejant(a), cast in lead, which now form a respectable guard to the entrance of the gate, were formerly placed at the extremities of the parapet of the bridge which crossed the ditch, and were removed to their present situation when the ditch was filled up and the bridge demolished.

From the gate the wall runs eastward about two hundred yards, and is still visible, though much encumbered with dwelling-houses; among which, two semicircular towers are barely discernible. It terminates in this direction by a high round tower, which has a more modern appearance than any other part of the walls, and seems to have been built with embrasures, like Calshot castle, for the reception of cannon. From this tower the wall runs quite straight, and in a direction nearly south, till it reaches the water. At a distance of about one hundred yards from the north-east angle, East-gate formerly stood: it was demolished about thirty years ago,† but a drawing of it is among Grose's Antiquities, and it appears to have been equally ugly and inconvenient. The whole length of this side is about eight hundred yards, and it is defended by a broad and deep ditch (in the bottom of which the new canal is dug), and fortified by eight turrets; six of them of a semicircular form, and two square ones, which, however, appear rather more modern than the others.‡ These two were probably built about the time of Edward VI.; as that young monarch, in the very

notice, as it did mine until after the first edition of this book was printed.

[*From some seals attached to ancient documents among the records of the Corporation, it appears that a small central tower formerly rose above the rest of the building. If (as has been suggested), a tower clock should ever be added to the Bar-gate, these seals, which give various representations of it in bold relief, might be consulted with advantage.—Ed.]

(a) These lions were given (in the room of two others which were decayed) in the year 1744, by William Lee, Esq., son of Lord Chief Justice Lee, on his being made a burgess.

[†More than 70 years ago, at the present date, 1841.—Ed.]

[‡ See note, page 4, as to the present condition of the part here described.—Ed.]

curious account he gives his friend Fitzpatrick, of his summer excursion into this county, says that the townsmen had spent much money in repairing their walls for his reception. Leland mentions only six towers in this eastern wall, probably the six round ones. The upper part of the north-eastern tower was probably built at the same time; and by Grose's plate of the East-gate, it had embrasures similar to those of this tower, and most likely added in the same repair. The structure both of the wall and towers is of coarse and irregular masonry: the upper part is totally destroyed, and no mode either of defence or annoyance appears, except a very long and narrow loop, with a circular enlargement in the middle, near the foot of each of the towers. Where the wall reaches the sea, it is terminated by a strong tower with a gate. The arch of entrance is pointed, and has within it two others, of different forms and heights, and two grooves for portcullises. Over this gate is the Bridewell. It seems evident that originally the ditch was dug so deep, as to admit the sea at high water quite up to the north-eastern angle of the wall before mentioned; and the projecting tower and building which we shall next survey, were very likely added to defend the sluices, on which so essential a requisite to the defence of the town depended, and which of course an assailant would endeavour to destroy. This mass of building is evidently less ancient than the walls, and probably of about the same date as the outer part of the Bar-gate. It has been supposed that this tower was built in the time of Henry VIII., and a passage in the records of the town seems to countenance the idea; but it is certainly far more ancient than that prince's reign; and the passage in question probably refers to the north-eastern tower, the more modern appearance of which has been already noticed. Its masonry is much better than that of the walls, and the windows and battlements are very neat. It is, however, of a form extremely ill calculated for defence, or rather offence to assailants; and under its shelter a large body of troops might advance in security almost up to the gate. Its irregular form and projecting buttresses render it, however, a picturesque object. It is now the gaol for felons and debtors of the town and county of Southampton.

On the platform just under it lies a very fine and curious brass cannon,

of the age of Henry VIII., and bearing the following inscriptions and ornaments :

On an escutcheon crowned with an imperial crown, England and France quarterly, supported by a dragon and greyhound. Under it, in a tablet,

HENRICVS. VIII
 ANGLIE. FRAN
 CIE. ET. HIBERN
 IE. REX. FIDEI. DE
 FENSOR. INVICT
 ISSIMVS. F. F.

On another tablet, close below the former :—

MDXXXII
 HR VIII

Just before the touch-hole :—

ARCANVS. DE. ARCANIS
 CESENEN. FECIT*

[* In the early part of last September, 1840, Mr. Deane recovered, from the wreck of the *Mary Rose* at Spithead, a brass gun with the same inscription and date as that described above, after it had lain in the sea above three centuries. In the 36th year of Henry VIII., A. D. 1535, D'Annebaut, a French admiral, attempted to seize the Isle of Wight. He was resisted by the English fleet under Viscount Lisle. During the engagement, the *Mary Rose*, one of the largest of the English ships, was overpowered by the weight of her own ordnance, and, heeling greatly, the water rushed in at her port-holes and sunk her. Sir Walter Raleigh has left a record of the loss of this vessel, and of its occasion. He says, in some observations on improvements in ship building, "We carry our ordnance better

than we were wont : for, in king Henry the Eighth's time, and in his presence at Portsmouth, the *Mary Rose*, by a little sway of the ship in casting about, her ports being within sixteen inches of the water, was overset and lost. A vessel may carry out her ordnance in all weathers, provided that her lowest tier of ordnance be four feet clear of the water, when all her loading is in."

The words *arcanus de arcanis*, connected with the name Cesenen as the maker, seem to indicate that he kept his mode of casting a profound secret. It is stated, under the article CANNON, in the latest edition of Rees's Cyclopædia, on the authority of Larrey, a French author who wrote a history of England in the seventeenth century, that brass ordnance was the invention of J. Owen, and

On the breech ring :—

COLOVRINA 4214

Two perforated lions' heads serve as rings to lift it.

The ornaments on it are in a good style, although carelessly finished.*

On the shore, between high and low water mark, near the platform, stood the Admiralty gallows belonging to the local jurisdiction of the town. It is represented in Speed's plan of Southampton, annexed to his map of the Isle of Wight.

To return to the walls: From the tower and gate just mentioned, the wall runs in a direction nearly west for about one hundred and twenty yards, having the sea washing its foot,† till it meets the Great or East Quay. In this length it is defended by one large and high turret, at which it makes a little bend to the northward. An ancient gate with a low pointed arch, with a groove for a portcullis, and machicollations over it, opens on this quay: which projects into the river about one hundred and thirty yards, and is evidently as ancient (at least in part) as the town itself. This Water-gate has been so defaced by houses built against it on every side, that it is not easy to make out its original form; nor can we now trace out the manner in which it was connected with the wall to the south-east of it, the line of which projects at least thirty feet beyond the outer front of the gate. The demolition of an old house built against it, has lately brought down all the machicollations; and in its present muti-

was not known in England till A.D. 1535. Colovrina seems to be a mode of latinizing one of the early French names for a species of ordnance then called *Coulevrine*, whence our word Culverin. On the origin of this word, etymologists are not agreed. *Couleuvre* being French for a snake, some attribute this application of the word to figures of snakes which ornamented some of the early guns; others, to the long and somewhat tapering shape. Many fanciful names then prevailed for these

formidable weapons of war: as Basilisk, Dragon, Aspic, Serpentine, Falcon.—ED.]

[* This ancient brass cannon is now mounted on an excellent carriage, the gift of John Fleming, Esq., M.P. for the southern division of Hampshire.—ED.]

[† In consequence of a recent and very valuable improvement, the sea no longer "washes the foot" of this wall. A broad terrace has been constructed, connecting the Quay with the Platform, and forming a useful addition to the Quay eastward.—ED.]

lated state, no one but a staunch antiquary could much lament its total removal; which is seriously talked of, and which would essentially conduce to the convenience of the commerce carried on upon the quay.^(a) Just beyond the northern tower of this gate two machicollations appear in the wall, which perhaps defended another gate or postern opening on the quay for the more convenient carrying on the trade of it; but the lower part of the wall is here so completely blocked up by houses, that this point cannot be ascertained.

From the Water-gate the wall continues in a curved line to the north-west, with its foot in the sea.* Its construction is here similar to the part already described, and the towers which defend it are much of the same form, though only partially visible even from the sea, as wharfs and timber yards† are now built out into the water in front of them. At about

(a) This intended demolition has now taken place, and the whole gate, with the old buildings attached to it, is removed. In apartments above this gate, and immediately adjoining to it, the business of the Customs is said to have been anciently transacted. The two principal rooms were of good proportion, and had wainscot ceilings and ornamented chimney-pieces. Over the chimney-piece of the eastern or innermost room, were three coats of arms. In demolishing the gate, nothing remarkable was found, except part of a large flat monumental stone, which had been worked into the wall in building the gate. It is of the usual early Norman form, and has the lower part of a figure in long robes outlined on it, and an inscription running round it between two straight lines. The letter of this inscription is of the Norman form, and the words PVR SA ALME PAR CHARITE PRIEZ are legible. A few letters, forming probably the end of the name of the person to whose memory the stone was inscribed,

remain, but the name cannot be made out.

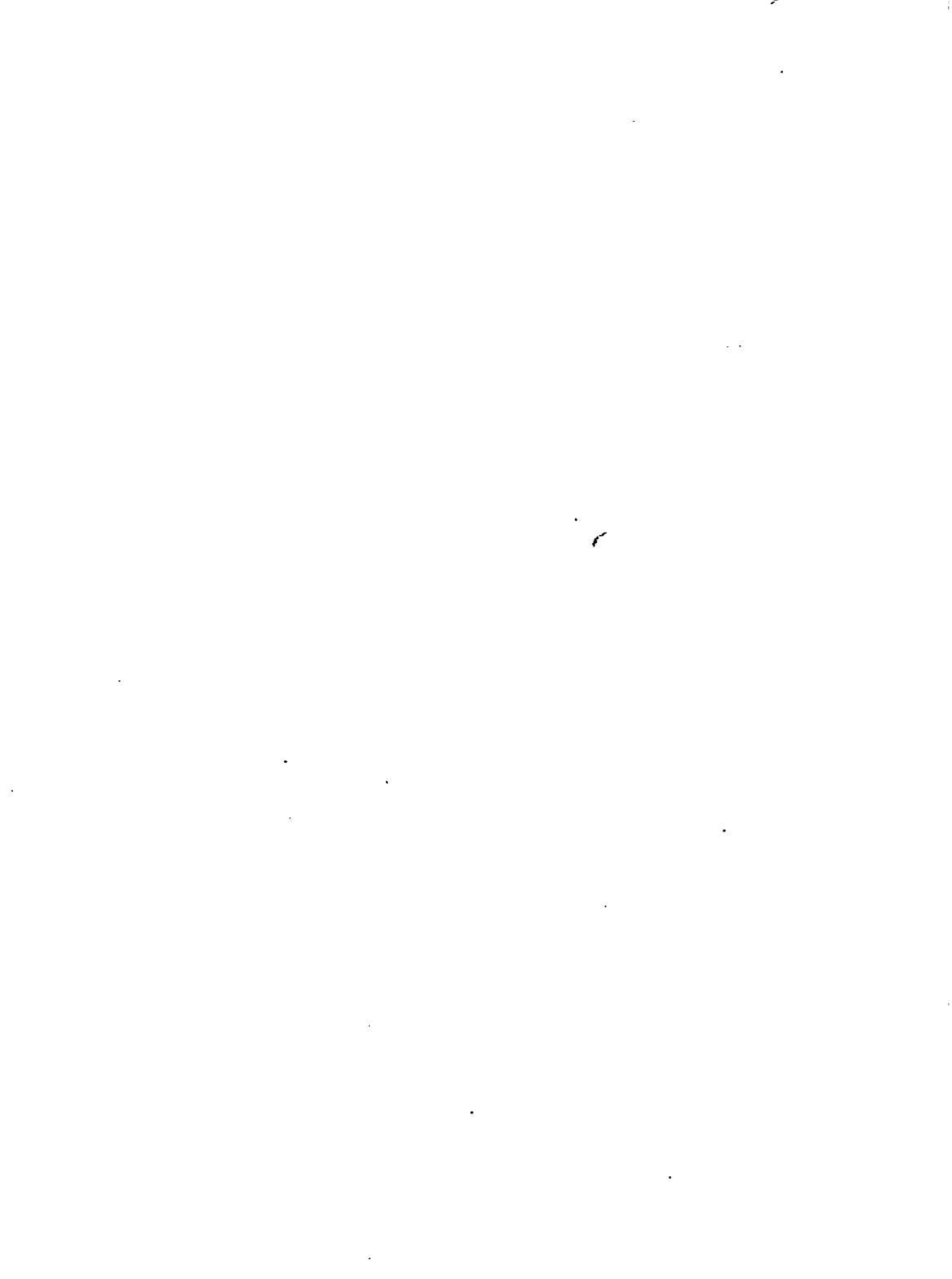
[* Here, again, by a very valuable improvement, the quay has been extended westward; the ancient wall has been removed from the lower ends of French street and Bugle street; and a convenient landing pier has been thrown out, to obviate the disadvantages of landing on the flat muddy shore at low water.—ED.]

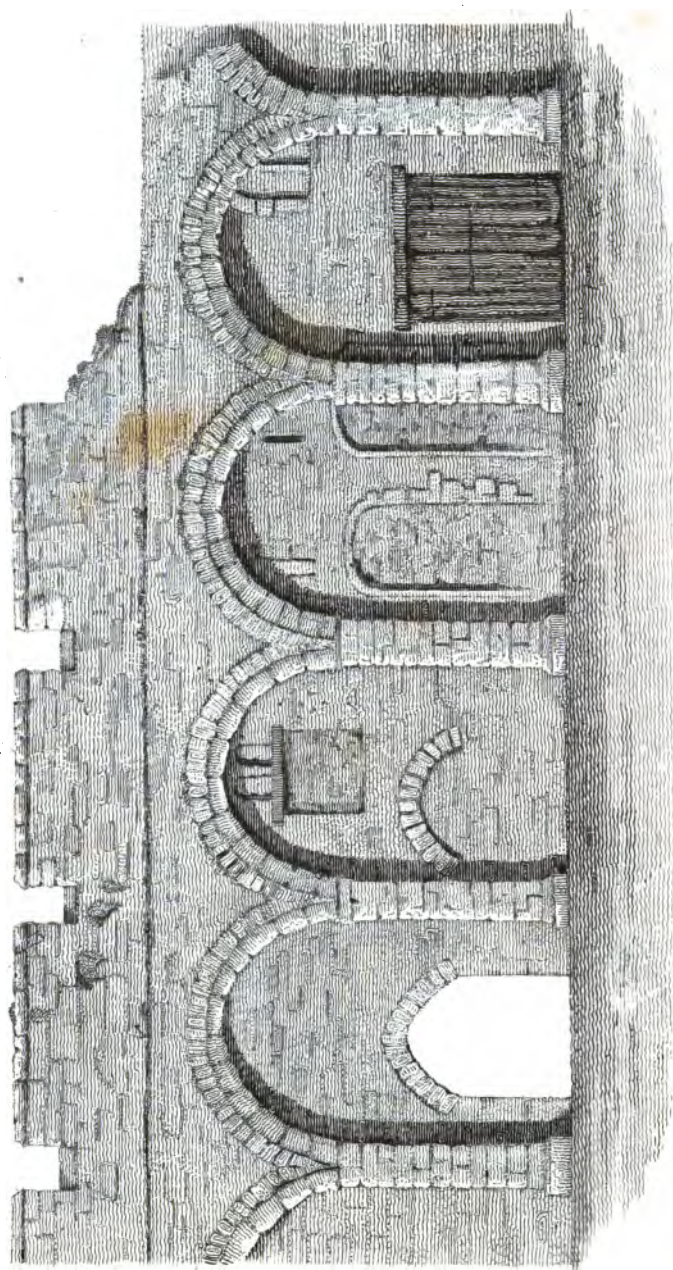
[† These wharfs and timber yards were a part of the incumbrances removed from this quarter for the improvement of the quay: as well as a miserable collection of small houses which had been reared in front of the ancient wall, and were approached by a doorway cut through it, their foundations resting on the shore below: the courtyard common to this curious nest of dwellings being formed of planks, through which, heavy gales, at spring tides, not unfrequently forced up the sea. The place bore the nick-name of "Noah's Ark," and it had usually a large proportion of "unclean" inhabitants.—ED.]

two hundred yards from the Water-gate, the wall makes a more sudden bend to the northward, and seems to have suffered in this part some injury, either by failure of its foundation, or breach made in it. At present it has the appearance of having slipped outwards from the foot, into the sea. At the north end of this part, a high open arch appears in the wall, of the same sort as those which we shall soon describe; and beyond that arch the wall goes on quite plain and very high, till it reaches the West-gate. This gate is a low, plain, pointed vault, very strongly and carefully defended; there being in its thickness at least two grooves for portcullisses, and six square apertures for pouring hot water, or other annoyances, on assailants. The tower over this gate is modernised, but does not seem ever to have been in any way handsome. The length of the wall from the Water-gate to the West-gate is about three hundred and eighty yards.

The West-quay is small, but, by the caution with which its gate was defended, has evidently been considered as of great consequence in former ages.

To the north of the West-gate, and fronting the area occupied by the public baths and rooms, the wall is of great height, and exhibits a mode of building quite peculiar, and which seems singularly ill-contrived for strength and defence. The wall may here be said to be double. The interior wall has been the front of a row of very ancient buildings; a part of which has been ornamented with Saxon double windows above, and doors of different forms below. These apertures have all been filled up, and against the front a row of high and slender piers is built, which partly cover the ancient apertures of the wall behind them. These piers are two feet two inches in breadth, and project three feet and three inches from the wall; and they have a base projecting four inches and a half every way, which is about eighteen inches high above the present level of the ground. At ten feet six inches above the basement, arches are turned from pier to pier; leaving, however, an open space of one foot eight inches, on an average, between the old wall and the new; which are connected by stones at intervals, leaving interstices something in the nature of machicollations, open to the sky. At a considerable height above the arches, the wall terminates in a parapet, with one battlement in the extent of each arch. The





St. John's f.

TOWN WALL.

St. John's f. del.

whole range of arches is in number nineteen, but they are not uniform in size or figure. The first eight are nearly alike, and are very nearly semi-circular; though all, except the two first, have a slight tendency to a point. Behind the first, which is twelve feet wide, is the remain of a double Saxon window, with a pillar; and below, the jamb of a door or long window. Behind the second, also twelve feet wide, appears below, the remainder of the same door, and another near it with a very flat arched head, like those of the latest Gothic. Above, is a small loop to the right, and a double window, similar to the one before mentioned, to the left. The third arcade is eleven feet four inches in width, and behind it is a large round arch, of neat plain workmanship, and above it a double window. In the fourth, which is eleven feet nine inches in width, is a very curious small postern, which has been defended by a portcullis, and opens into a narrow steep alley called Blue-anchor-lane. In this lane are to be seen the remains of two very ancient edifices, of which we shall say more in the survey of the streets. The fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth arches are each eleven feet wide. The fifth arch has only a small loop within it: the sixth nothing but a plain wall. The seventh has a large modern opening to a court of small houses. The thickness of the wall may here be distinctly seen; and it is very thin for its height and the uses of defence. The eighth has a rough pointed arch in the wall. A large pier then succeeds, with a straight joint all the way up, against which the arch is turned: this pier is therefore older than the arcade. A very flat arch, eighteen feet wide, comes next, with a thick pier; and then an arch, six feet four inches wide, and very flat, with another thick pier and a straight joint exteriorly. These two arches and their three piers (together with another similar narrow arch and its thick piers, which we shall presently notice) seem as if they had belonged to a building which projected beyond the present front of the wall; for the face of the small arch is rough, as if broken off. This building, whose ancient form and destination it is now impossible even to guess at, must have been of great size and strength; and the double walls, united at the top by the flat arches, are a very curious and singular circumstance, and well worthy of notice by those who survey this interesting part of the wall.

The regular series of arches then goes on. The eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth, are each eleven feet wide; the fifteenth only nine feet three inches. The eleventh has nothing within it; the twelfth two pointed door-ways, the one to the right almost hidden by the pier. The thirteenth has a small pointed window or niche, and by it a flat segment-headed door. The fourteenth has a large semicircular arch, of good masonry; the fifteenth a slight trace of a window aloft. Then comes in another thick pier with a straight joint exteriorly, and a flat arch six feet four inches wide, and broken in front like the former. A thick pier with a straight joint all the way up exteriorly, forms with this arch a mass of work very similar to the one before described. The range of arches then begins again. The seventeenth and eighteenth are eleven feet wide. The seventeenth has nothing in the wall behind it; the eighteenth has a flat segment-headed door or window, and near it, but lower, a neat large round arch, which extends into the nineteenth arch; which is only five feet three inches in width, and sharp-pointed, to range at the tops with the rest; and here this very singular construction ends with a straight joint all the way up.* The wall beyond it appears much older, and in it is a low gate with a pointed arch, called Bridle-gate(*a*), over which are the brackets of two machicollations. This gate is merely an arch in the wall, and not, like the other gates, secured by a tower and portcullises in its thickness. To the right hand, just within it, is a pointed arch, which opened into some building now totally destroyed; and on the left, high up, is a door, which seems to have opened on a staircase: a narrow arched passage runs through the thickness of the wall over the gate, and terminates at this door. The wall at this gate is five feet three inches in thickness.

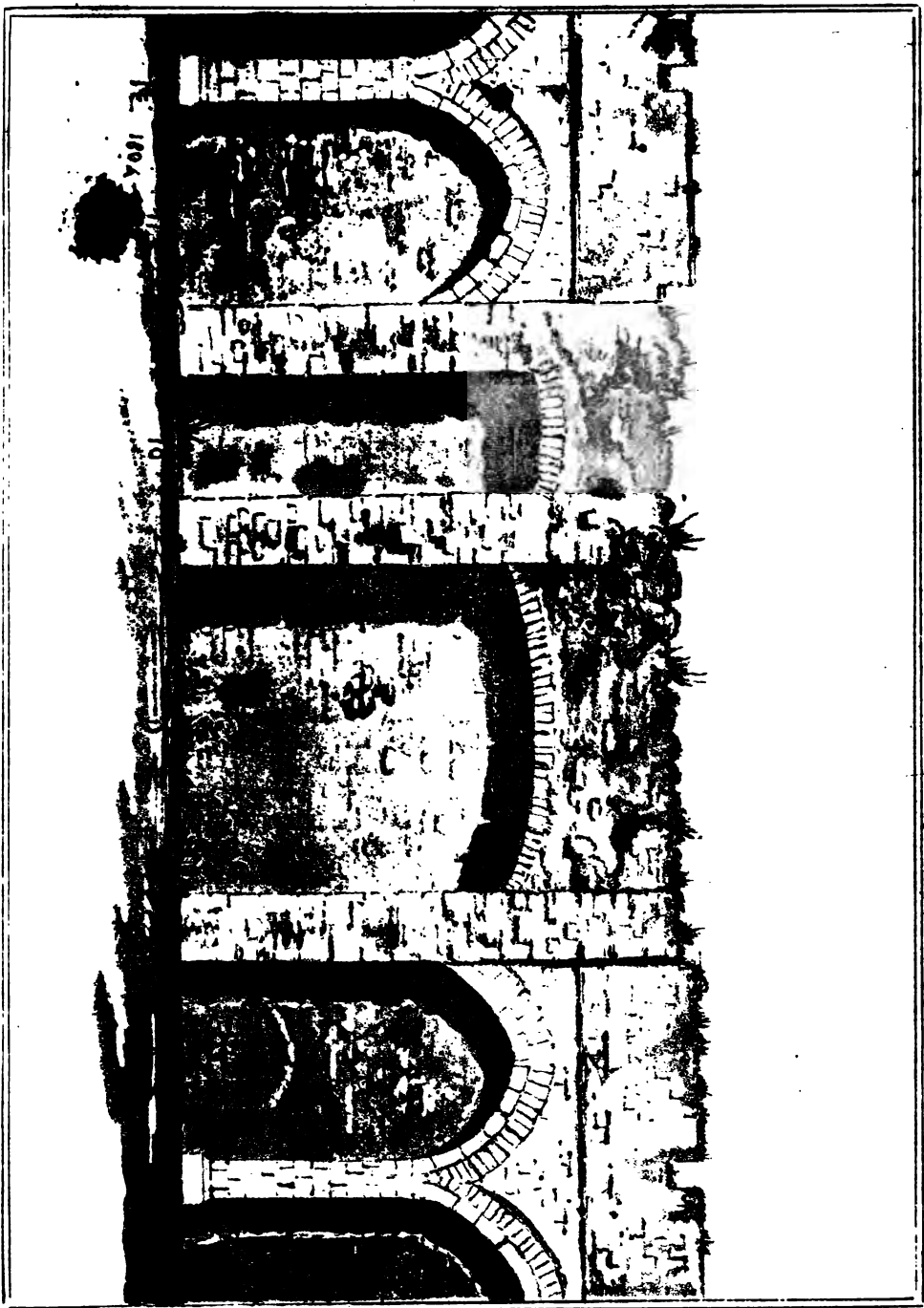
The wall just described was certainly peculiarly ill calculated for defence against any assailants who could establish themselves at its foot, as the demolition of a single pier would inevitably make a wide breach in the

[* It seems not unnecessary here to place on record, in connection with the above general description, that the masonry with which several of these arches have been filled up to a certain height below, is no part

of the original structure, but was a recent addition to prevent nuisances.—ED.]

(*a*) This gate, in the old records, is called Beidles-gate.

TOWN WALL, NEAR BRIDLE GATE.



arcade which it supported. It might indeed be conjectured, that this part of the wall was washed by the sea (as the parts to the north and south of it still are), which would render it less easy of access to sappers or engines of destruction : but the regular base to the piers,—the Bridle-gate opening on the area before them,—and the Blue-anchor postern nearly at the same level, and bearing no appearance of a water-gate,—together with the more ancient numerous doors in the wall behind the arches, which certainly did not open into the water,—discountenance this supposition ; and the causes which determined the builders to adopt so apparently preposterous a plan, we shall probably not easily divine. The length of the wall from the West-gate to the Bridle-gate is about one hundred and fifty yards.*

[* The Gentleman's Magazine for January, 1833, contains, under the signature of "An Architectural Antiquary," who has supplied an article "On Construction in Norman architecture," some remarks on this curious portion of the walls of Southampton, which may not unsuitably be appended to the above ; though it will be obvious to an attentive reader, that the author of that article forms conclusions somewhat different from those of Sir H. C. Englefield.

"No antiquary (says he) who has preceded me in the examination of these remains, has offered any explanation of a design so uncommon in architecture intended for defence. The main wall, or a considerable portion of it, has evidently belonged to domestic buildings which have been utterly destroyed. *It is Norman, but not of remote antiquity.* One of its double windows exhibits the fairest specimen of its architectural detail. It has two windows of the same kind, one looking westward, the other northward into Blue-anchor Lane. The style is more pure and ancient than that of another old mansion in Porter's Lane, being a little

more than half a century older. The spacious windows for light and air, observable in the building in Porter's Lane, [which will be found particularly described in another part of this work,] are in this instance carefully avoided: both these windows being in an upper story, and both are of moderate elevation. Strength for resistance, as well as convenience for observation, were demanded in this extensive structure. The former was sought by a ponderous external wall ; the latter might have been obtained without many windows in the front exposed to danger. An embattled parapet was probably the only means of defence and annoyance, till, at a subsequent period, a more formidable plan was devised of improving this part of the fortifications, without demolishing the ancient and well-constructed boundary. The plan of an arcade or screen was novel, ingenious, and effectual. Its pillars strengthened the wall ; its openings spared the most useful windows or loops ; and fresh doorways were contrived for those that were unavoidably destroyed : but what, perhaps, was the *most needful part of the design, was the*

From the Bridle-gate the wall makes a sudden projection at right angles to its former line, of about sixteen yards; and then, being at its exterior angle fortified by a square tower, turns back at an obtuse angle: another square tower defends this face, which forms a large irregular projecting mass, beyond the general line of the wall; which then continues in a direction nearly due north, high out of the water, and fortified by six very strong and handsome buttresses. The third of these buttresses is much larger than the rest, and has in it a door-case, high above the foot of the wall, and which probably was a water-gate to the Castle. In the intervals of the buttresses are traces of several loops and small windows, which lighted a large vault; of which more when we treat of the Castle. This part of the wall is beautifully mantled with ivy. The wall then runs northwards in a straight and flat face, and has one buttress more, at some distance from the rest, of most exquisite masonry. Just beyond this buttress is a large angular one, which, by flying arches to the wall on each side, supported a small tower. Here the wall goes off at an obtuse angle to the north-east, and has three very strong buttresses in this face. At this spot the wall of the castle abuts on the town wall; of which more anon. This point is two hundred yards from Bridle-gate.

perforated platform obtained by the addition of a breadth of more than three feet to the parapet. A line of machicollations would have exposed the means of annoyance from within; but here the arches screened the apertures, which must have proved so destructive to assailants, when engaged close under the walls. The arcade is surmounted by a strong and deep parapet, with a cornice, and a single battlement placed over every arch, with a comparatively narrow embrasure over every pier. The introduction of the pointed arch, which is more or less acute in proportion to the space it covers, forbids the supposition that this

screen work is older than about the middle of the 12th century. The masonry of the piers is very bold and strong; but the arches are composed of larger stones, and secured from sudden pressure, by other or discharging arches of well-wrought but smaller masonry, resting upon the main ribs: a method of construction very common at all periods, and preferable to the practice of building them apart."

The passages marked in italics, in this extract, will give a clue to the difference between the views of the "Architectural Antiquary" and the author of this "Walk." Ed.]

From hence the wall continues of very good masonry, straight to the north-west corner of the town; and it is defended by a very handsome semicircular turret, with a projecting parapet, supported by large corbels. The height of the wall from its foot is here twenty-eight feet, and of the turret forty feet. The tide washes the whole of this wall, quite to the north-west corner, which is one hundred yards from the point above mentioned; and the ground within is almost level with its top the whole way; so that it forms a most beautiful terrace to the gardens which belong to the houses in the High-street and Castle-square, and run quite to the wall, commanding an enchanting view of the bay, from the town to the village of Millbrook, and the river beyond it quite to Redbridge.

The north-west angle of the wall is fortified by a very elegant angular buttress, with a projecting parapet supported by corbels, forming a sort of small watch-tower; and very near it, to the eastward, is a high and strong circular tower. This angle of the wall has a very handsome appearance from the water. From hence the wall runs due east to the Bar, and is about one hundred and seventy yards in length: one semicircular tower defends it.

The total circuit of the walls, as taken from Mr. Milne's survey of the town in Faden's new map of Hampshire, is two thousand two hundred yards, or one mile and a quarter.

HAVING thus viewed every thing worthy notice in the exterior part of the town and its walls, and being returned to the point from whence we set out on our survey, we will now enter the town by the Bar-gate; on passing which, the most careless observer must necessarily be struck with the beauty of the High, anciently called English, street; which, for breadth, length, and cleanliness, can scarcely be equalled in England. The painter may perhaps lament, that neat brick fronts have in so many instances succeeded to the picturesque timber gables, which not long ago constituted the principal part of the houses; but it cannot be denied that comfort has

gained what picture may have lost. The gentle bend and gradual descent of the street, add much to its beauty ; as a straight level line of near half a mile (which is the length of the High-street from the Bar to the Water-gate) could not but be tiresome to the eye.

The first object which attracts particular notice, is the new Church of All Saints, built in the purest style of the Grecian Ionic order, by the late Mr. Reveley ; whose premature decease* the lovers of the arts will long lament. On entering this church, the bold and graceful curvature of the roof claims high admiration. The distribution of the whole area into pews, destroys the effect of this building, as it does of every other sacred edifice in this country : but a new and peculiar deformity exists in this church,

[* Mr. Reveley was snatched away, in the prime of life, after a few days' illness, in July, 1799. He had been a pupil of Sir William Chambers, the architect of Somerset-house. His attachment to his profession was of that earnest character which invariably attends high attainments. His early studies were improved by the rare advantage of travels undertaken for the special purpose of studying the best specimens of ancient art. The collection of drawings which he made in 1785, in Greece, in Egypt, and at Constantinople, attested his zeal, and taste, and industry, and his power of correct and forcible delineation and colouring. They excited the just admiration of his contemporaries, and were eagerly purchased after his death. This employment of his pencil peculiarly qualified Mr. Reveley to become the Editor of the last volume of Stuart's celebrated work on the antiquities of Athens, published in 1794, six years after the author's death, in which he had occasion to complete some of the details which Stuart had left unfinished. Mr. Reveley published no account of his own travels ; but a manuscript

folio of observations, said to be principally architectural, was purchased at the sale of his drawings by the late Mr. Bowyer, the printseller, for twenty-eight guineas : his collection of views, eighty in number, produced about £250. The only specimen which was carried into execution, of Mr. R.'s talent as an architect, is this Church of All Saints : a work in which needful regard to economy did not allow him to give full scope to his original design. Mr. R. entertained a very high opinion of the profession of an architect, but this did not check his industry by any supercilious affectation of importance ; for he sought employment wherever a liberal spirit would permit him to seek it. This activity, however, it is said, was more than once baffled by the resentment with which he met illiberal treatment. He was a man of strict integrity in all his dealings ; but could not altogether conceal his contempt of those who did not duly appreciate the accomplishments and feelings of a thoroughly educated architect. See various notices in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1799 and 1801.—Ed.]

contrary alike to good taste and the uniform practice of the church of England. The pulpit and reading-desk are placed in the centre of the church, so as completely to hide the altar from almost every part of it; and the officiating minister turns his back directly to it during the whole of the service. It is to be lamented, that the church of England, having formed her liturgy and ritual most closely on the model of the primitive church, did not at the same time adopt the form of the ancient ambones or desks, which stood on each side of the nave, of equal height, and from which in turn the different parts of the service were read: instead of huddling into one mean and incongruous group, the clerk's desk, the reading desk, and pulpit, to which the art of man cannot give either dignity or grace. In the church which we are now considering, the reading desk and pulpit might have been placed, with peculiarly good effect, on each side of the recess for the altar; and as the sounding board is omitted, a very elegant form might have been given to them, with no great deviation from the usual shape. As they now stand, besides their very irreverent position with respect to the altar, they have the exact resemblance to the establishment of an auctioneer.

Nearly opposite to All Saints' church is the Castle-lane, and in the wall of one of the corner houses is inserted a stone circular bas-relief, with a male and female head facing each other, cut on it. On inquiry I found that this stone was brought with a quantity of others from Netley, in order to be used in the foundation of the house, and was preserved on account of its sculpture. Although much defaced, the carving still appears to have been extremely good for the age in which it was probably done. By the size and shape it seems to have been the keystone of a groined arch; and it is not impossible that the heads on it were those of the founder Henry III. and his queen Eleonora. If so, it is much to be lamented that it is so much injured.*

A little lower down, on the east side of the street, in a house lately Harland's Hotel, is a room profusely decorated with very fine carving, of the age of James or Charles I. The chimney-piece in particular, which

[* In making some repairs, a few years ago, this stone fell into pieces.—ED.]

has the royal arms in very high relief in the centre, and the rose and thistle in the lateral compartments, with Terms and grotesque figures supporting them, is executed in a very masterly style; and the oak, having never suffered from paint, is of a fine mahogany colour, and as sharp as the day it was finished.*

The church of St. Lawrence, which is the next object in the street, is small, and almost choked up with houses erected round it. The east window is not ugly, but the church does not contain a single object either of beauty or antiquity.†

Holy Rood Church, which stands a little lower down on the same side of the street‡, has been much altered on the outside, but does not seem ever to have been of elegant architecture. The west window is deprived of its tracery, and the tower, which is rather uncommonly situated at the south-west angle of the church, is void of beauty. The doors of the central entrance are very neatly ornamented with Gothic tracery, in a good style, and well preserved.§ The colonnade which runs along the whole

[* The house described above as "lately Harland's hotel," is No. 17, High Street, now occupied by Mr. Andrews. The carving has been excellently preserved up to this time (1841), and the wood is almost of an ebony complexion. The initials I. R., with the date 1605, appropriate the work to the age of James I. The carver has undervalued correct spelling, almost beyond the well-known inaccuracy of our forefathers. The royal motto is transformed into DU ET MON DROT. Two other mottoes on scrolls, suggest considerations always important to be kept in the view of the mind, as they are here prominently brought before the eyes. VERTU IS ABOVE RICHES: DOE AL UNTO GOD'S GLORY.—ED.]

[† The old church has been pulled down; and a new fabric, which, when completed, will be an ornament to the town, is at pre-

sent building. During the demolition, nothing worthy of note was discovered. About a score of old and much mutilated copper and brass coins were found in preparing for the foundation.—ED.]

‡ Holy Rood Church, about 1321, stood in the middle of the High-street; and, on its removal, the old Audit-house probably was built on the same site. Long subsequent to this, it was greatly defaced by the erection of butchers' shambles around it, which theretofore were near the Friary, now Gloucester square; and the wardens of the butchers, in 1634, were directed to confine them either to the Friar's gate, or New-corner, now called Butcher-row.

[§ By the side of these doors are now affixed monumental slabs of white marble, commemorating the dreadful fate of twenty-two persons, who lost their lives in attempt-

front, is by the lower class of inhabitants known by the name of the "Proclamation." Probably on this spot, close by the old Audit-house and market, the magistrates proclaimed peace, war, or other public and official notifications, which now are promulgated by the less impressive mode of printed papers affixed to the walls of the principal public buildings, and often confounded with common advertisements.* In hustings erected within this portico, the poll is taken at elections of members for the town.†

The church within is large and handsome, but its appearance is much injured by the organ and its loft, which totally obstruct the view into the chancel.‡ The nave and side aisles are very neatly ceiled in pannels, and the roses which ornament the intersections of the ribs appear neatly carved. At the south-west door there is a wooden screen of mixed Gothic, of queen Elizabeth or James the First's time, which is uncommonly well executed, and of elegant design.§ In the nave, directly over and opposite the pulpit and desk||, are two very singular long and narrow apertures in the spandrels of the corresponding arches. The choir formerly extended to them, and they received the timbers of the rood-loft.¶

ing to save property during a calamitous fire in this parish, in November, 1837.—ED.]

[* Proclamations are now read from a small balcony in front of the Audit-house.—ED.]

[† Since the Reform Act was passed, different arrangements have been made for taking the poll.—ED.]

[‡ The organ has lately been removed to the West end.—ED.]

[§ This screen has been removed, and a plain wall has replaced it. It would seem that, if the screen was worth preservation, the wall might have been, with equal convenience, built behind it.—ED.]

[|| The old pulpit is taken away, and a modern pulpit now stands in the central part of the church.—ED.]

[¶ Before the reformation, the rood-loft, or, as Chaucer calls it, the rood-beam, supported a crucifix in churches generally. This is no improper place for reprobating an illiterate fancy, prevailing in Southampton, of spelling the name of this church "Holy Rhood." It is properly the church of the Holy Rood, or Holy Cross. There is no reason and no authority for inserting the letter H. The Rood was the Anglo-Saxon word for the Cross. The Saxon Chronicle calls it, the "halige rod." The Anglo-Saxon version of John xix. 17, is "He sylf bar his rode." There is no known instance of an H inserted. Who thinks of spelling the ancient palace of the Scottish kings at Edinburgh in any other way than Holy Rood House?—ED.]

The church had a regular choir, in the manner of a collegiate; a circumstance unusual in parochial churches. This singularity (which will also be remarked in St. Michael's church) was probably owing to their having belonged to the priory of St. Dionysius, whose monks, on great festivals, would perform divine service in them with considerable pomp.(a) The churches of All Saints and St. Lawrence also belonged to St. Dionysius; having been all four given to that priory by the same charter of Henry II. Many of the stalls yet remain, some in their places, and some mixed in the pews. They are of extremely neat workmanship and pretty design, and on scrolls in different parts of them, the motto of the munificent prelate Fox, bishop of Winchester, "Est Deo Gracia," remains cut in a very beautiful Gothic letter, in high relief.

The choir or present chancel extends beyond the side aisles, and has handsome windows on each side, though those to the north are now blocked up by houses. The east window is large, but, like the west window, is deprived of its tracery. A few shattered fragments of fine painted glass appear in some of the windows. Several modern monuments of the Stanleys of Paultons are fixed to the walls of the choir; that to the

(a) It is probable that there was some permanent choral establishment at Southampton; for in the will of the illustrious William of Wykeham, a bequest of twenty pounds (a very considerable sum at that period) is made "Domino Johanni Keton præcentori ecclesiæ Suthampton." The precentorship was attached to St. Mary's, called here the *Ecclesia*, in opposition to *Capella*, by which we know that the four churches, of St. Michael, Holy Rood, St. Lawrence, and All Saints, were designated, in the charter of Henry the Second. In the *Liber Regis* the living is described as "the precentorship in the church of St. Mary, near Southampton, alias the rectory of St. Mary's, near Southampton;" and as the precentor of the vicarage of South Stone-

ham, though incumbent of the former, is called "*the precentor or rector of St. Mary's near Southampton*, might not the Valor of Pope Nicholas IV. probably afford some further information as to what this precentorship was, or how it became connected, not with the *right of patronage*, which is not uncommon in the case of Cathedral precentorships, but with the *actual incumbency* of a parish church, of which I do not at present know of another instance. In the same will of William of Wykeham, cited above, a vestment and chalice are left "*Ecclesiæ Beatæ Mariæ Suthampton;*" and twenty marks, for the repairs of their church, to the prior and convent "*Sancti Dyonisii juxta Suthampton.*"

memory of Miss Stanley, by Rysbrack, is the only one worthy notice. In the middle of the chancel stands a handsome brass eagle desk. The font, which has been removed from its ancient place near the church door, and now stands under the organ loft*, is octagonal, and adorned with niches, in a neat, though plain, Gothic style.

The conduit, which stands opposite the church, is a modern and ugly building.† The springs which supply it are excellent: they rise in the hill north of the town about a mile, and unite at an ancient stone conduit-house just under the Polygon, whence the water is brought to the town by a leaden pipe. This conduit is as ancient as the eighteenth year of Edward I., and was made for the use of the house of Friars Minors, situated in the south-eastern part of the town. The water was formerly brought in earthen pipes, formed in lengths of about eighteen inches, and fitting into each other with a shoulder or flanch. They are still not unfrequently dug up in the repairs of the pavement.(a)

In a house nearly opposite, and now inhabited by Mr. Hawes, is a large room with a very handsome ceiling stuccoed in compartments, of the date of Elizabeth. A house on the left side of the street, directly opposite to the Audit-house, has a low room on the ground floor with a stuccoed ceiling in the same taste with Mr. Hawes's; and a large space now occupied by a staircase and glass-ceiled parlour, but which once was a consider-

[* The organ loft was removed when the organ was placed at the west end of the church.—ED.]

[† It has been very judiciously removed, for some years, as an incumbrance to the street.—ED.]

(a) A more copious supply of water is now proposed to be brought to the town, from springs on the highest parts of the common, to the north of the town. The waters of these are to be collected in a reservoir, which will be at so high a level, as to afford an easy supply to every house, as well above as below the Bar. The work is as yet but little advanced; in digging,

however, on the common, for the reservoir, several of those bronze instruments, with an edge, and socket for a handle, not unlike large chisels, and which have been usually known by the name of Celts, have been found.

[Two other reservoirs have subsequently been formed: but the supply of water afforded is so insufficient for the daily wants of the largely increased population, and especially for security in cases of fire, that an Artesian well of large dimensions is at present in progress, on the upper part of the common.—ED.]

able hall, is decorated with a deep stuccoed frieze of arabesque foliage, and the arms of queen Elizabeth and her initials, twice repeated. In this house, the occupier, Mrs. Cowley, informed me she remembered much painted glass, of which only a small fragment now remains.*

The Audit-house, which stands opposite, on the right side of the street, is a new and handsome edifice. In it the records, seals, and regalia of the corporation are kept. Of the records I can say nothing, except that among them there are several charters and books which would repay the labour of the antiquary who shall inspect them. The seal of the corporation is very ancient and curious. The original obverse, which is now disused, and nearly defaced by time and rust, is of bell metal, about three inches and a quarter in diameter, and bears the impression of a single-masted ship, on the sea, with the sail furled, and a very high poop and forecastle. On the deck a figure seems standing. Round it, in a fair Roman character, is this legend,—SIGILLUM COMUNE VILLE SUTHAMTONIE. There does not appear ever to have been any armorial bearing whatever on this seal; and the device of a ship seems to have been common, in early times, to all seaports. The workmanship of this face of the seal seems to have been very rude, but the letters are well cut.

The reverse of the seal is still in use, and bears a triple Gothic niche, of good design. In the centre compartment is the Virgin and Child,—in the lateral ones, two figures turned respectfully towards the Virgin. All the figures are standing, and of considerable elegance in their attitudes and drapery. The inscription round the edge is quite illegible through age; but a deed, with the seal appendent, dated in 1565, and sealed while the inscription was perfect, gives it thus,—O·MATER·VIRGO·DEI·TV·MISERERE·NOBIS.

This face of the seal seems less ancient than the obverse. The obverse now used is of silver, and presented to the town by private generosity, in the year 1587. Its device is a ship of war, three-masted, and in full sail, bearing on its mainsail the shield of arms of the town, party per fesse, argent and gules, charged with three roses, two gules in chief and one

[* "Nous avons changé tout cela," as the man says in Moliere. These relics are all gone in both the houses.—ED.]



ANCIENT SEALS.

argent in base. This bearing is probably not more ancient than Henry VII., when the hostile roses were united. (a) Round the edge,—SIGILLUM COMMUNE VILLE SOUTHAMTONIÆ. The whole is of bold relief and good work.

There is also a very fair silver seal, exactly two inches in diameter, now used as the admiralty seal. Its bearing is a ship single-masted, and with the sail furled, neatly and boldly cut: on one side of the mast a crescent, on the other a star, and lower down a large rose. The inscription is in a very fine Gothic character, and runs thus,—“Sigillum Majoratus Ville Suthamtone. Beves.”

The mention of Bevis is singular, as it does not appear what connexion his name can have with the seal. The form of the letters and style of the work indicate the seal not to be more ancient than the reign of Henry IV. or V. (b)

(a) Queen Elizabeth, in the seventeenth year of her reign, granted arms to the town of Southampton, which are registered in the Herald's Office, and blazoned as follows:—

“Per fesse, silver and gules, three roses counterchanged of the field. The crest and supporters hereafter following, that is to say, upon the helme, on a wreath of silver and gules, on a mount vert, a castell of gold; out of the castell, a queene in her imperial majestie, holding in the right hand the sword of justice; in the left, the balance of equitie, mantelled gules; dobled silver.”

“The supporters; out of two ships proper upon the sea, standing in the forepart of the ships, two lions rampant, gold.”

In the patent, it is declared, that the town had borne arms long before.

It does not appear that the town ever made use of the cumbrous pomp of crest and supporters, thus added by Elizabeth, to the simple and beautiful coat of arms of the

town, and they probably exist only in the Herald's Office, and in a drawing preserved in the Audit-house. The ancient bearing of the arms on the sail of a ship, perhaps, suggested the ships as supporters to the lions; and the lions themselves are not unlikely connected with those which now guard the Bar-gate. The crest was no doubt a compliment of the “Queen's Majestie” to herself. For the copy of the grant of arms, as well as many other articles of curious information, I am happy to acknowledge my obligation to Arthur Hammond, Esq., of the town of Southampton; whose attention has been long and successfully engaged by the history and antiquities of his native place.

(b) Three other seals, of brass or bell metal, are kept among the archives, though now not used. The most ancient of these is rather more than an inch and three quarters in diameter. Its bearing is a crowned head, full faced, with flowing hair,

There are six silver maces: two large gilt modern ones, and four small and ancient. The most curious of these is probably as old as Henry

and a very youthful appearance. The neck to the shoulders is bare, and the robe comes straight in front, like the old fashion of women's boddices. On the breast is a castle or tower; and on each side of the head a lion passant guardant, as if standing on the shoulders of the figure: the head of each lion is towards the face of the figure. The whole is in bold relief, and not ill cut. Round it, in Saxon capitals, runs the following inscription: .S EDWARDI REG ANGLIE P RECOGNICONE DEBITORV APVD SVTHT. It has a ring on the back by way of handle, and on the back is cut, in a careless manner, but in characters which look ancient, ADMIRAL.

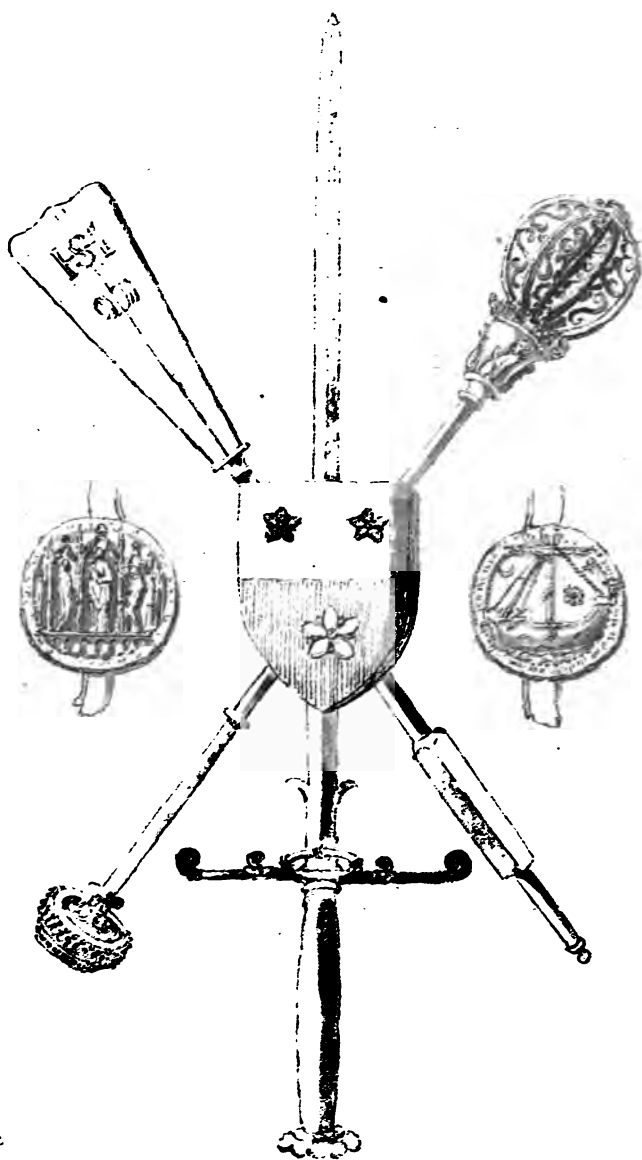
The "recogniciones debitorum," for the authentication of which this seal was designed, were evidently those entered into under the statute of Acton-Bumel, of the eleventh of Edward the First, and usually known by the name of Statute Merchante. For the security of foreign merchants trading to England, the lands, as well as the chattels of their debtors, were solemnly pledged to them by deed, sealed with the seal of the debtor, and also with the king's seal, to be affixed by the mayor or chief wardens of such town as the king should appoint. The workmanship of this seal, its perfect preservation, and its destination, render it a most curious and valuable remain of antiquity.

A seal nearly similar to this, but apparently of inferior work, is engraved in Milner's History of Winchester, as the seal of that city; which, however, it certainly

was not originally; being provided under the statutes de Mercatoribus, for the express purpose of sealing recognizances, as its legend shows.

The next in antiquity, is an inch and a quarter in diameter, and is charged with a leopard's head, full faced, and open mouthed, with a fleur de lys on each side of it; above the head are two small roses, and below it two more. The whole is enclosed in an irregular six-foiled tracery, of very pretty design, but ill cut. Round the seal runs the following inscription, in a Gothic character: Sīgillu : officiū : stapulle : sille : Suthamptonit. This seal has an upright handle.

This seal is as it were the counterpart of the first. Edward the Third, following the example of his illustrious grandfather, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign, extended the advantages and encouragement granted to merchants by the Statute of Merchants of Edward the First, by the Statute of Staples. This statute begins by enacting, that the commerce of wool, leather, and lead, shall be carried on at certain towns, called Staple Towns, of which several are not sea-ports, but to each of these inland Staples a port is assigned for entries. It is also enacted that in each staple there shall be a seal kept by the mayor of the staple. Winchester is one of the staple towns appointed by this act, and Southampton is its port. The advantages resulting to commerce from the establishment of these offices of staple, it is foreign to this work to detail. Blackstone and Reeves will furnish ample information.



Reg del y se
1801

REGALIA.

VII. It is only sixteen inches in length: it has a small head with a crown supported by three sitting lions, and above that, an open ornament of five semioval leaves, like the ancient maces of arms: on the top is engraved a rose, the badge of the town: the lower end is a large ornamented pommel, with England and France quarterly chased on it. The other three ancient maces are made on the model of this, but not nearly so old: One of these was not many years since carried before the mayoress, on all occasions when she appeared with her husband in form, as in going to church, &c.; on which occasions she wore a scarlet robe or gown.

The silver oar, the badge of the maritime jurisdiction of the mayor (which is very extensive, reaching not only over the whole Southampton water, but half channel over from Hurst castle to Hayling island), is modern, and not handsome.* The sword of state is very ancient and curious. It is one of the vast two-handed weapons of our ancestors, with a very fine blade four feet four inches in length, and two inches wide. The guard is of iron (now gilt), one foot and a half long; and the hilt is likewise one foot and a half, with a large iron pommel. In the council

The alteration of style in the interval of seventy years, which elapsed between the cutting of these two seals, is remarkable. The age of the first Edward has very much the advantage.

It may not be improper here to add, that although the jurisdiction of the staple is now totally obsolete, yet the mayor of the town is annually elected mayor of the staple; and a constable of the staple, and a weigher of wool, are annually appointed, as is enacted in the Statute de Stapulis, chapter 21.

The third seal is nearly an inch and three quarters in diameter, and bears a shield of the form used in Henry the Eighth's time, with a fesse or between three roses, two and one. These were probably the arms of the town at the time when this seal was cut,

though different from the arms of Southampton now borne, which in this present form were granted by queen Elizabeth. On the sides of the shield are a Roman H and a tun, the usual device for Hampton. There is no inscription. On the back of this Seal is cut ADMIRAL, in the same character, and apparently by the same hand, as that before mentioned.

The mayor on all public occasions wears a very handsome gold chain, which, with its medallion, was presented to the corporation by Bercher Baril, Esq., senior bailiff in 1792. Previous to that time no chain was worn.

[* The act by which corporations were recently reformed has altered this jurisdiction. —ED.]

chamber is hung up a good carving of the arms of England in wood, supported by a dragon and greyhound. Under the coat is a portcullis, and a pomegranate, or some fruit similar to it, and over the crown are two angels hovering. It seems of the age of Henry VII. There is also a carving of the arms of Winchester, quartered with bishop Fox's pelican, and his motto, "Est Deo Gracia." Among the attendants or servants of the Corporation formerly, was a band of five musicians, who wore gowns and badges; and, on the 11th of December, 1607, it was ordered that the musicians should give security for their escutcheons or badges of silver.*

Towards the street there is a very large and handsome room for public meetings.

The ground-floor is open, and, with a large area behind it, forms a neat and commodious market, which is as well supplied as that of any town in England.

A little lower down, on the same side, stands a very old house, the parsonage of Holy Rood church, with a curious stuccoed front, covered with ornaments. In three square tablets appear, in the centre one the feathers of the Prince of Wales, and on each side a rose crowned with a close crown. The style of these ornaments does not allow us to suppose them later than the reign of Henry VIII.: they are perhaps still older. The long duration of this stucco is curious.

The door of entrance of this house, with its hinges and iron ring, is very ancient; and in the spandrils of the door-case, are cut in an ancient Gothic letter, *Jesus Maria*.†

A little lower down, on the left side of the street, is an old conduit with a stone front; and close adjoining is, or rather was, the remain of a buttress, and some good Gothic niche-work, which seems to have adorned the conduit, or else was a part of the friary, which occupied a large space of

[* This band seems to have been broken up in the middle of the same century. It is alluded to in a satirical poem, first published in 1690, as long since extinct.—ED.]

[† This house has, of late years, been

demolished, and it is replaced by two modern houses, No. 106 and No. 106½. The parsonage of Holy Rood parish has long been transferred to God's House Court.—ED.]

ground, on a part of which Gloucester-square is now built, and probably in some measure with the materials of the old friary.*

On another part of its site is erected a vast square building, which is a very conspicuous object from the lower part of the town. Its original designation was a sugar refinery, but the project failed; and it has since been a military hospital†, the scene of dreadful mortality, from a malignant dysentery which raged in it; it now is used as a warehouse for the vast quantities of Spanish wool, which by *stress of weather* are landed here every year.(a) Human bones are found, in digging for foundations, over the whole site of the friary.

This religious house was founded in the year 1240.

Quite at the bottom of the street, on the left, is a large mass of stone buildings, now converted into warehouses, with vast vaults under them. As there are several handsome Gothic doors in this building, it does not seem probable that it was originally destined for that use, to which, however, it has been long applied. This building extends far into Winkle-street, and is separated from the Water-gate mentioned before.‡ Opposite to this passage is a very old conduit, built against the town wall, with a sloping roof of hewn stone. In the old house near this conduit, and now a carpet manufactory, the free-school founded by Edward VI. was originally lodged.§

At the end of the warehouses just mentioned, in Winkle-street, a round arched gateway, with an old turret over it, opens into the court of the

[* This old conduit has been demolished many years, and is replaced by No.75.]

[† About the year 1794, during the time that a camp was formed on Sholing down, as it was then called, on the eastern side of the Itchen; while the forces were assembling, which the Earl of Moira, afterwards Marquis of Hastings, conducted to Ostend, on a disastrous expedition against the French.—ED.]

(a) England and Spain were at war when this was written, and the commerce for wool was carried on in neutral vessels, mostly

Hamburgers or Prussians, who cleared out from Spain for their own ports, but, under pretence of damage at sea, put into English harbours, and unloaded their valuable cargoes. The greater part of this trade was carried on at Southampton.

[The building described above, and still called the Sugar-house, has long been used as a corn store.—ED.]

[‡ Since demolished: see a former note, in page 13.—ED.]

[§ The conduit is removed: the other building is altered into storehouses.—ED.]

Maison Dieu, or God's House, founded by two merchants, brothers, in the reign of Henry III. It was by Edward III. given to Queen's College, founded by his consort Philippa, with which it to this day remains. The chapel is very ancient, but has been so defaced by repair, that few traces of its original form are visible.^(a) An old porch walled up is just discernible in Winkle-street. The lodgings of the inmates of the hospital have flat-headed windows of a rather uncommon form.

Returning back to the Water-gate,—at the bottom of the High-street, on the right hand, we enter Porters'-lane; which is so narrow and closed by overhanging old houses, that it is difficult to view the front of a very considerable and most curious edifice, which has much the appearance of having been a magnificent dwelling or palace. If so, it is among the few remains yet existing of the habitations of our ancestors, distinct from monastic or castellated mansions. Perhaps I indulge but a fond conjecture, when I consider it as possibly the hall from which Canute, surrounded by his courtiers, viewed the rising tide, and from whence he descended to the beach, according to that most interesting narrative of our old historians, to repress, by a striking and impressive lesson, their impious flattery. The extent of its front to the street is one hundred and eleven feet, and its height seventeen feet from the present level of the street. It is divided into two stories by a semicircular fascia, or cord; the lower story being ten, and the upper seven feet high. In the lower, or ground floor, two doors, with flat arches of segments of circles, are discernible; which are irregularly placed, and one of them does not seem coeval with the original building; but the upper story is perfectly regular, excepting one smaller window at the west end; and is pierced with a noble triple window in the centre, with two very handsome ones, of rather lesser size, on each side. Of the central window, only two divisions now remain, but

(a) In this chapel, the Lords Cambridge and Masham, and Sir Thomas Grey, who were beheaded for a conspiracy against Henry the Fifth, just before he sailed from hence for France, were buried, and a tablet was placed, commemorative of them, by the

late earl of Delawar; but there is no ancient memorial of them.

[God's House Chapel has just been fitted up as a place of worship for the labourers employed in forming the docks, 1841.—Ed.]



ANCIENT BUILDING IN PORTERS LANE.

there can be scarcely a doubt that it was triple, as otherwise it would be irregularly placed with respect to the lateral windows ; whereas, under that supposition, the whole design is perfectly uniform. These central openings probably went down to the floor, and formed as it were an open portico in the middle of the room. Their arch is a very little flatter than a semicircle. The side windows had double semicircular-headed lights, in the usual style of the Saxon or Norman windows ; but the flat elliptical arch enclosing them is very singular. These windows have a very flat segment arch within ; and the angles of the opening are finished with a very neat little column, quite in the style of the early Gothic, with the rib peculiar to that style running down the front of each column. The capitals are neatly carved with hanging leaves, in the same early Gothic style. These pillars and their capitals certainly lead to a suspicion, either that this building is not of so high antiquity as the exterior front would warrant our supposing it to be, or that they were additions of a later date than the original edifice, which is by no means improbable : but in buildings of this early date, it is not easy to fix the period of their erection with any precision. If, however, this part is coeval with the rest, the building itself must be esteemed of the age of Henry I., or thereabouts ; although, from every other part of it, I should have been led to suppose it at least as old as the Conquest, if not considerably more ancient. The mouldings of the whole exterior front are quite in the manner of the early Saxon, being all imitated from the Roman architecture. The impost of the central window is composed of an astragal and cavetto, with a square fillet : those of the side windows are a cavetto and fillet : and in both, the fillet is detached from the cavetto by a singular angular groove or channel, which has a very good effect.

The principal dimensions are as follows :

Central windows, each, high, seven feet seven inches ; wide, from out to out, five feet five inches :

The rise of the arch is two feet six inches and a half :

The pier between them, wide, two feet two inches :

The lateral windows, high, five feet ; and wide, four feet ten inches, from out to out :

The rise of the arch is nineteen inches and a half :

The double lights, one foot six inches wide ; and four feet two inches high : The pier between them, eight inches wide :

The opening of the window within, high, five feet five inches ; and wide, six feet :—the arch rises only ten inches :

The smaller single window at the west end, high, five feet seven inches ; and wide, three feet.

The room within does not appear to have been ever divided ; but it is so defaced by modern additions and repairs, that it is scarcely possible to speak with certainty on the subject. Its breadth within the walls is sixteen feet eight inches ; so that it appears to have been a sort of gallery. The wall is two feet nine inches thick. In the western gable there is a double-headed window, nearly of the same form with those in the front, but of smaller dimensions. What remains of the masonry without, is most singularly neat, and composed of the small stones used in general by the Saxon and Norman architects, with courses of nearly equal thickness throughout ; a nicety to which the later architects seem scarcely ever to have attended.

The angles of every part of the buildings are chamfered off, even to the exterior angles of the walls of the front ; and in the great central windows the chamfer is rounded, so as to give the jamb something of the appearance of a quarter column. It may be here observed, that in the inside front of the lateral windows, the arch above the little columns is left square ; which may confirm the suspicion that these decorations, which certainly are not of the style of the rest of the building, were added at a later time. The large windows seem calculated for the full enjoyment both of the air and the southern sun, to which the mansion is directly opposed.

No trace, I believe, remains, of the original designation of this building ; but I cannot help suspecting that it is more ancient than the Conquest, and perhaps a part of the royal palace inhabited by the Saxon and Danish sovereigns, who certainly resided occasionally in this town. Its vicinity to the wall, which now chokes up and obstructs its prospect and light, is no objection to this supposition, as the wall and Water-gate are much less ancient than this edifice. For whatever purpose it was designed, its whole style and disposition differ so materially from any other with which I am acquainted, that I cannot but consider it as an object of considerable



1E 180

curiosity. No part of the present remains has the appearance of having been constructed for religious purposes, or for those of defence; nor is there any trace of a religious establishment having at any period existed in this part of the town: the building was therefore, probably, constructed for a dwelling-house, and its size and magnificence may justly entitle it to the name of a palace.*

[* Such was the interest which Sir H. C. Englefield took in this old building, that he was at the pains of describing it twice. His first description was in a paper read before the Society of Antiquaries, in London, April 16, 1801; the substance of which is now incorporated above. It will be observed however, by an attentive reader, that this learned antiquary had considerable hesitation in fixing the probable period when this edifice was erected, and then he doubted whether he had not carried its antiquity too high. The able author of an article "On Construction in Norman Architecture," published in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, January, 1833, has made this building the subject of some remarks, which may not unaptly be introduced here.

"The remains of the very magnificent mansion, improperly called Canute's palace, at Southampton, furnish the best examples of the elliptical arch with which I am acquainted. The antiquity of this building has been much over-rated. Its external mouldings furnish sufficient proof that it is late Norman; and there can be little doubt of its having been built during the last half of the twelfth century. There are great richness and novelty in the label moulding of the windows, and a graceful character throughout the design, which distinguishes it from early Norman architecture. But

the slender three-quarter pillars on the inside angles of all the elliptical windows, bearing the fillet, as the badge of their positive antiquity, and with capitals of foliage, slightly but carefully sculptured, and excessively defaced, seem to favour the accuracy of the date I have assigned to the building. Sir H. Englefield's description and measurement of this interesting relic of architecture are mostly correct. I examined and made accurate drawings of it, in the year 1818, seventeen years after that able antiquary had delineated and described it. About thirty feet of the front, from the west angle, had been demolished, to make room for a meanly built house, but the rest remained in good preservation. One of the triple windows, which distinguished the centre, has been long obliterated by brickwork, but the arches of the two elliptical windows towards the east, and that of one on the other side of the centre, remain; their double arches on a broad mullion or pier, described and engraved by Sir H. C. Englefield, —the first rudiment of tracery—have entirely disappeared. A spacious and very ancient doorway, slightly pointed, remains under the west pier of the triple windows, and part of another door under the corresponding pier, but they were walled up with stone. The masonry of all the arches had been wrought with great care, and it was so admirably

Immediately adjoining to this very curious building, we come to another of almost equal antiquity, but in a very shattered state. This building forms the south-east angle of French-street, which runs parallel with the High or English-street, up to St. Michael's church. The south-west angle of this street is formed by a large and plain stone building, with a high pointed window over its door, which has much the appearance of a chapel. There is not, I believe, any certain memorial of its original destination ; but it was not improbably the chapel of an hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, but long before the dissolution annexed to the priory of St. Dionysius. The arched timber work of the roof still subsists. It is now used as a warehouse.*

Proceeding up this street (or northwards), the next object worthy notice is the free-school, founded by Edward VI., but many years after removed from Winkle-street to its present site, which was an ancient mansion known by the name of West-hall. The dining room is a very handsome room, with a richly carved Gothic chimney-piece, and a row of windows behind a wooden arcade of a singular form. The ceiling is of stucco, in compartments. The whole of this room is at least as old as the reign of Henry VIII.†

Nearly opposite to the school is the church-yard of the now destroyed church of St. John, whose parish is incorporated with that of St. Lawrence. The area of the church is still discernible, and the church-yard was probably, formerly, much more extensive than it now is; reaching quite to the High-street, along Broad-lane; as, in digging on the premises, forming the south angle of Broad-lane in the High-street, human bones have been discovered.

constructed that it remained without a flaw ; and though the front wall had been considerably damaged by alteration, yet it plainly indicated workmanship of a superior quality."

[* One of these fabrics has been rebuilt, and the other enlarged and altered.—ED.]

[† This ancient mansion has been de-

molished, and a new house built for the master of the free grammar school, fronting Bugle-street. Spacious buildings appear to have occupied the site, even before West-hall was built : as a great mass of foundations was observed beneath the soil, amounting, probably, to some hundred tons of stone, and of great thickness.—ED.]

A little higher up is the remain of a very ancient building(*a*), which at least three centuries ago has undergone an alteration. This is apparent by the flat-headed arch, inserted into and partly breaking a very handsome plain semicircular one. The ground floor of this building is a very large cellar, now used for coals. Nearly opposite to this, are very old wooden buildings, called St. John's Hospital, in which are several doors with carvings in the spandrils of their flat-arched heads(*b*). Being now arrived at St. Michael's-square, we will return back into Porter's-lane, and by it, enter Bugle-street(*c*), which runs parallel to French-street, and also terminates in St. Michael's-square.

The first thing observable here is a building whose front is in Porter's-lane, and whose long flank runs on the right hand (looking northward) up Bugle-street. This is a solid stone edifice, with a plain front, much less ancient than the three very singular semicylindrical stone buttresses in the side. These buttresses are well built, and appear to be constructed with a view to uncommon strength. It seems probable that this is one of the ancient warehouses of the great merchants of this place, famous of old for its commerce. It may here be observed, that in every part of the town there are vast stone vaults, most of them apparently of great antiquity, and constructed when this place possessed almost a monopoly of the French wine trade.

(*a*) This building is called the Weigh-house, where probably merchandises were weighed, under the inspection of the mayor of the staple and the customer of the port; both for ascertaining the amount of the customs, and preventing frauds or disputes between buyer and seller.

(*b*) Since this was written, these buildings are demolished, and their site is at present occupied by a handsome theatre.

(*c*) Bugle is the ancient name of the bull, and is much in use in this part of England. In Newport town in the Isle of Wight, the principal inn has a bull for its sign, and is called the Bugle Inn. The small hunting

horn so much now in use in our army, under the name of the bugle, though at present made of metal, was without doubt, originally, simply a bull's horn.

Perhaps I may be pardoned for here observing, that one of the most ancient Welch musical instruments, called the Pibcorn, or Pipe-horn, which is formed of a flute, with a mouth-piece not unlike that of the clarionet, inserted into a large horn which forms a trumpet-like termination to it, is still recorded by us in the favourite popular dance called the Hornpipe; and the sweetness of its tones have to this day maintained its use in Italy under the name of Corno Inglese.

The ground opposite to this edifice is only of late years built on, and was known by the name of "the Gravel." When we recollect that this is synonymous to "the Beach," it seems to countenance a suspicion, that this part of the town was open to the sea until a late period.

Close adjoining to the singular building just mentioned, there is a long wall, in which are several doors and windows of different antiquity, apparently blocked up at different periods of repair. Among them is a small fragment of a very handsome Gothic window. This wall now encloses the play-ground of the school.

A little higher up on the left, and forming the angle with Westgate-street, is Bugle Hall, of old the spacious residence of the earls of Southampton, till lately a very fine and ancient house, but destroyed a few years since by fire.

Almost opposite to it is an old timber and stuccoed house, with the plume of feathers*, the cognizance of the princes of Wales, in its front.(a)

St. Michael's-square, to which we are now again arrived, merits a particular description. It was formerly the fish-market, and was choked up by a building in its centre, where the market was held. It is observable, that the space between the Castle and St. Michael's church anciently united those shops most necessary to life; Simnel-street, Butcher-row, and the fish-market: a proof that the town first grew under the protection of the Castle.

To return to the square. On its western side, and directly fronting the church, is a very large and ancient house of timber and stucco. It

[* This is the public house bearing the sign of the Duke of Wellington. The stuccoed front is replaced by tiles.—ED.]

(a) In West-gate-street, and very near the gate, on the north side, are premises still bearing the name of the Linen-hall and Tin-cellar. Tin appears to have been a very great article of commerce at Southampton, even so late as the reign of Henry VI., who once seized and sold to his own

use all the tin lying at Southampton. See Cotton's Posthumous Works. The records of the town also bear evidence of the importance of the tin trade, which was so extensive as to have a separate office for the receipt of the duties payable on it. This office was held (say the records) "at the great house next to Holy Rood Church." —From the information of A. Hammond, Esq.

consists of two floors, besides the garrets in its gables. Each story overhangs considerably, and the projections are ornamented with handsome cornices. Little pillars, supporting light semi-arched ribs, run up the front of each story, forming the whole into regular compartments. There are four gables of different breadths, and corresponding to each is a large window; three of them with curved heads, and the fourth flat. The lower point of union of these gables has a long and handsome pendent ornament; and very flat arches run from pendent to pendent, in the span-drils of which broom pods seem to be carved, the favourite badge of the Plantagenets. The gables above have been modernised. At the north end of this front is a large wooden porch, with a singular projection of the next story over the door, supported by a very flat semi-arch. In this porch there is some rude carving. The interior of this house is modernised, but there remains in one of the great windows some curious and very old painted glass. Many of the panes have each a bird performing different offices and functions of human life, as soldiers, handicrafts, musicians, &c.* On the ground-floor behind the house is a large room, now quite modern, but which tradition says was a chapel. As it stands north and south, it was more probably a great hall. The age of this very venerable and beautiful edifice can scarcely be less than four hundred years; and the wood-work shows high antiquity; as it is, without rottenness, quite perished by age.

On the north side of the square is a mass of wooden houses, now very mean, but in which great marks of antiquity may yet be traced. One door-way with a highly pointed wooden arch is observable; and under a part of these are very capacious vaults.†

On the south side of the square nothing occurs worthy notice, excepting a handsome plain semicircular arch, in a building in the narrow alley which runs from the square into French-street, and insulates the church.(a)

[* This glass has been removed.—ED.]

[† This part has been rebuilt.—ED.]

(a) This arch, together with a smaller arch to the west of it, was probably a part of the wool hall, which extended from them quite to Bugle-street. The low and ancient

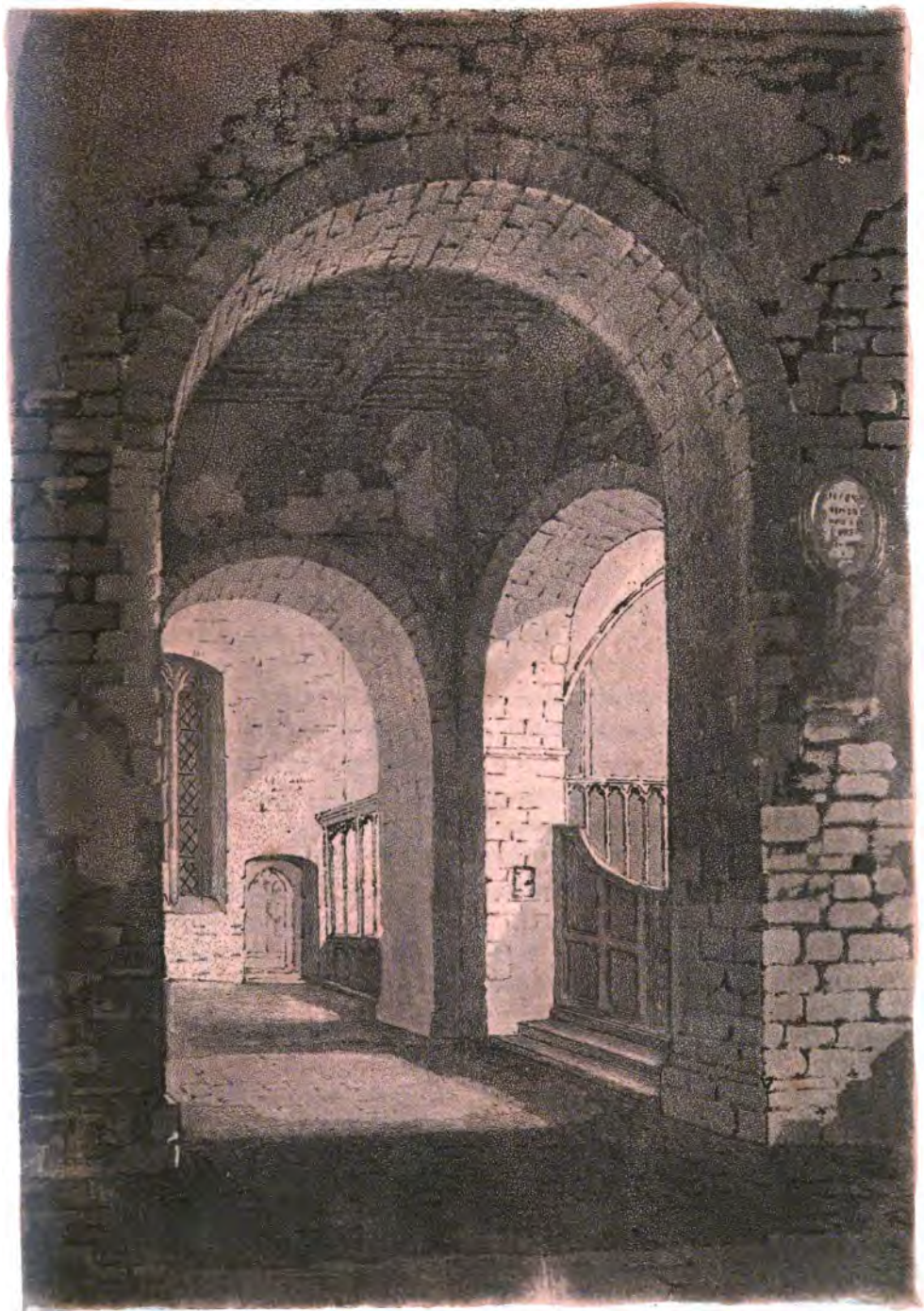
wooden-fronted houses were erected on its site, and still in the terrar of the town are called by the name of the Woollen-hall. They were all originally one large mansion. For this information I am indebted to A. Hammond, Esq.

The church itself, which forms the eastern side of the square, is a very curious one, and by much the most ancient of any in the town. The west front has a large window deprived of its tracery. On each side of this, the Saxon masonry of the original front is still discernible. In the eastern front the same masonry is also visible, together with a fragment of the little angular column which occurs so frequently in Saxon buildings, and a small morsel of a billeted moulding. The length of the church from east to west, and the breadth of the nave, are unaltered; but two large side aisles have been added, or rather the original ones have been taken down and enlarged. In the north aisle are two handsome highly pointed windows. The centre east window is also very large and handsome, with tracery of rather a late style of Gothic, and fragments of extremely good painted glass. The tower, which rises from the centre of the church, is low, and quite plain. A very neat stone spire, of very pleasing proportion and considerable height, has been added within about sixty years.

The nave, with its side aisles, as far as the tower, is the only part of the church used at present for the ordinary divine service. It is separated from the more eastern part by an open screen of ancient Gothic, of very good design. The old Saxon columns have been, every other one, taken away; and handsome pointed arches, of considerable span, turned over the remaining ones. Their capitals have a small fluting on them, of a design common in that style of architecture.

The tower stands on four plain and strong semicircular arches, without any sort of ornament, except a very small impost moulding. The bells are rung on the ground, and the area of the tower now makes a singular sort of vestibule to the chancel, which is open to the side aisles by large arches, and divided from them below by open wooden screens. A considerable number of plain stalls still stand in the chancel, and many more have been removed, and now stand in other parts of the church. A handsome brass eagle desk, which belonged to the ancient choir, also remains. The choir probably extended under the tower, as far as the screen before mentioned.

In the northern chapel, which is parted from the side aisle by a beautiful open Gothic screen, is a handsome monument to the memory of the Lord



ST MICHAELS CHURCH.
(Inside View.)

Chancellor Wriothesley, and a large and costly standing chest, carved and inlaid, and stated, by an inscription on its front, to have been given, with the books in it, by John Clungeon. The inscription is as follows:—

“John the Sonne of John Clungeon of this towne Alderman

“Erected this presse and gave certain books who died anno 1646.”

The books are however now gone, and the surplices, &c., are kept in the chest.

In the flank of the north window, opposite the tomb of Wriothesley, is a square sunk pannel with a shield, and a singular monogram cut in relief in it. A monogram of the same sort occurs on a stone on the almshouses in St. Mary's churchyard.* These are given in the plate of the title, and to them is added another, cut on a very rich Gothic stone chimney-piece at Romsey. These monograms were evidently the marks of traders and merchants, and occur not unfrequently on the tradesmen's tokens. So much would not have been said on their subject, did they not illustrate a passage in that most curious poem called Pierce the Ploughman's Creed, and which Mr. Warton seems to have misunderstood. (See History of English Poetry, vol. i. p. 301.)(a) The author, describing a magnificent church of the friars preachers, says,

“Wyde wyndowes ywrought ywriten ful thikke

“Shynen with shapen sheldes to shewen aboute,

“With merkes of merchauntes ymedeled betwene.”

In this description of a window adorned with memorials of benefactors, the “*merkes of merchauntes*” evidently mean monograms of this nature, used by those who had no right to bear arms, to commemorate their munificence: and as the houses of the mendicant orders were mostly built by general contribution, these marks were very characteristic of their convents. The abbeys of the several orders of monks, founded in general

[* These almshouses have been removed, and others built to substitute them, in a new street, east of St. Mary's churchyard, now called Grove-street, from an ancient path-way adjoining, which once bore the name of Golden-grove. The old stone has been

judiciously preserved, by being built into the front.—ED.]

(a) Mr. Warton, in his additions and corrections annexed to the third volume of the History of English Poetry, corrects the mistake here alluded to.

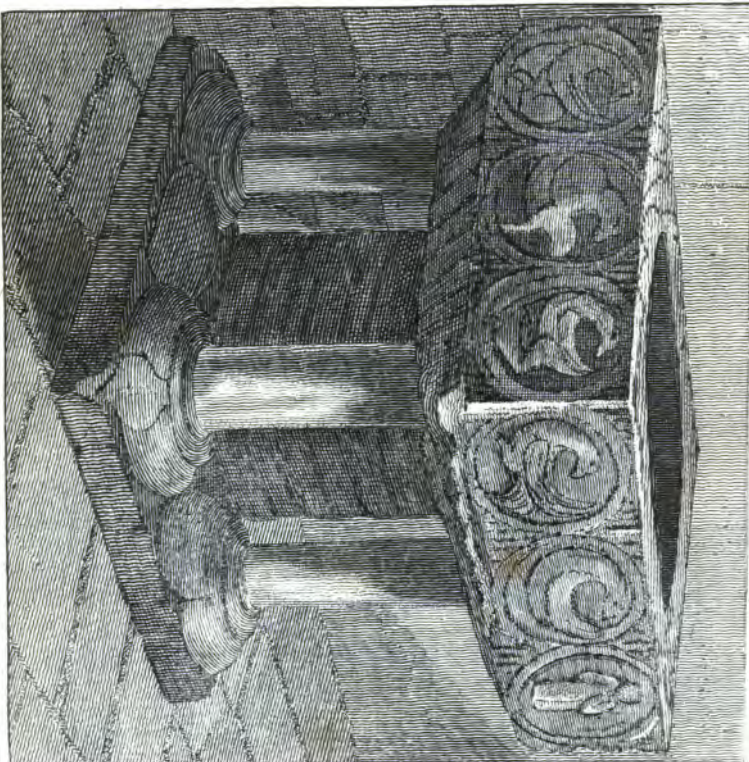
by the devotion of a monarch or some opulent baron, would for that reason have few armorial or other bearings in their windows, besides those of the founder and his family.

The southern chapel, which has a plain Gothic screen in front, and a window to the east, of an uncommon though late Gothic form, now contains the font; which is a most curious and highly ancient one, much resembling that in the cathedral of Winchester. It consists of a block of black marble, three feet four inches square, and one foot six inches deep, supported in its centre by a cylinder of the same material, ornamented with horizontal rings, so as much to resemble a barrel; and at each angle by a plain pillar of white stone, of one foot six inches high, and about six inches in diameter. The whole stands on another marble block, three feet square, and about seven inches deep, out of which are cut bases for the small columns, consisting of a flat ring on a large round cushion. These rest on a plain square plinth of about three inches high. A plain leaf falls from the bases of the columns, on each angle of the plinth.

The top stone is excavated into a hemispherical basin, two feet six inches in diameter, round which runs a scroll of foliage, of very rude execution, but not bad design; and the angles are filled with an imitation of the ancient ornament, now generally called the honeysuckle. A deep groove runs round the edge of the basin, to receive the cover; and the irons which locked it down yet remain.

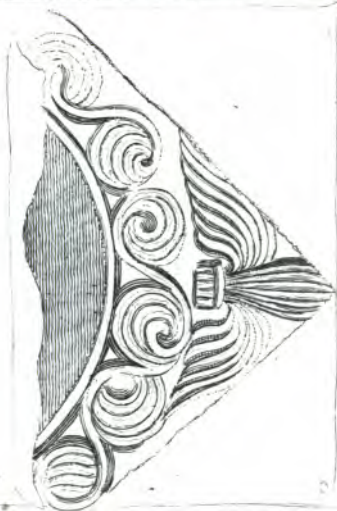
In early times the font was shut with peculiar care, lest the consecrated water should be profaned, or stolen for magical purposes.

The sides of the block, of which three only are now visible, as the font stands against the wall, are each divided into three circular compartments, with a sort of winged monster in each, something like a gryphon; except one, which has an angel in a long robe of linen, covered with a shorter tunic. His hands are folded on his heart, and round his head is the nimbus or glory. Behind his shoulders are two wings, which reach to his feet. These sides are one foot one inch and a half deep; and the remaining four inches and a half of the thickness of the block, slope away to the central cylinder, in a sort of fluting or broad leaves, now much defaced. The workmanship of the whole is in the very rudest style of Saxon sculpture.



St Michael's Church, Bath.

FONT IN ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH.



St Michael's Church, Bath.

It is curious to observe the effect of time on the black marble of which this font is composed. A vein less hard than the rest runs through one front, and it is quite honeycombed by age, although it probably has always stood under cover.

Near this chapel is the south door of the church; which has a screen before it, with a neat wooden door-case, and Gothic capitals cut in the spandrils. In the wall of the tower opposite this door, is a low ornamented Gothic arch for a tomb; but rubbish is accumulated about it, so as to hide the tomb-stone, if there is any.*

Opposite the west door of St. Michael's church, and close by the porch of the large wooden house before described, a very narrow and winding alley, called Blue-anchor-lane, leads, with a quick descent, to the small

[* Through the laudable exertions of the present incumbent of St. Michael's parish, the Rev. Thomas Lawes Shapcott, A.M., the old fabric of St. Michael's church, which was singularly inconvenient, and ill adapted to the numerous population, has been enlarged and extensively altered. The whole description above must therefore now be considered as matter of history. Mr. Shapcott informs me, from observations which he made while the alterations were in progress, that he has no doubt the original structure was cruciform; and that it had been altered from time to time to the state in which Sir H. C. Englefield saw it, when he wrote his description. Of the primitive fabric, it is probable that the tower, with its massive pillars and arches, and a small portion of the eastern and western walls alone remain. The northern chapel, called the Mayor's Chapel, which was decorated with a new window of stained glass by the old Corporation, has ceased, since the Corporation Reform Act was passed, to be used for the purpose of a not unbecoming homage to

religion, in swearing the mayor into his office, which had long been its designation. "Fui-mus Troes," &c. No books remain in Clun-geon's chest: but there are, on an old reading desk, two mutilated volumes, apparently much worn by reading, of probably the original edition of Fox's Book of Martyrs, in black letter, with wooden cuts, and two volumes of the Assembly's Annotations on the Holy Scriptures. The ancient font is placed under the centre of the tower. A mutilated effigy, apparently mitred and bearing a crosier, which must have covered a very ancient tomb, was found in making the alterations in the church, and is preserved on the south side of the communion table. Near it is a piscina, in the wall. In a coffin about four feet long, which was removed during the alterations, was found a skeleton without a head; that part having probably, at a remote period, figured over the Bargate as the "head of a traitor," in the times during which such disgraceful exhibitions were but too frequent.—ED.]

postern before described in the survey of the wall. On each hand are ancient Saxon buildings. The late Blue-anchor alehouse has a good arch in it, and on the left hand we see the side wall of that edifice whose front in the town wall was before described. In this side wall is a flat-arched door, and above, a double window divided by a column, like those in the front; and near it, a projection of the wall, supported by plain square corbel stones, which contains the flue of a chimney. The inside of this building is well worth viewing. The access to it is by a great modern breach in the front of the arches in the town wall. When within it, we find that there has been a floor dividing it into two stories; to the upper one of which, the chimney just mentioned, belonged. This has a very neat fireplace, of excellent masonry, adorned with a small column on each side, from which the mantle-piece rose in a flat arch. The funnel is carried up in a conical form, and the flue is cylindrical. The exterior dimensions of this edifice, which was very nearly square, are as follows:

The front to the sea, fifty-one feet three inches:

Front in Blue-anchor-lane, forty-eight feet nine inches.*

Simnel-street, which leads from the Bridle-gate to the upper end of French-street, deserves notice for its name; which is probably derived from the rich cake, seasoned high with saffron, a favourite dainty of our ancestors, and not quite out of fashion in Shropshire; and which was perhaps principally sold in this street.†

[* In a work recently published, intitled *Sketches of Hampshire*, by the late John Duthy, Esq., which was left in an unfinished state, and was completed by another gentleman, who took much interest in the antiquities of Southampton his native place,—this ancient building has received particular notice; and evidence is brought forward as to the probability of its having once been a royal palace, inhabited by king John on the occasions of his not unfrequent visits to the town, and that it was afterwards considered a royal residence by Henry III. See *Sketches of Hampshire*, p. 444—446.—ED.]

[† An attempt has been made to alter the name: a sort of innovation which should always be opposed, as destroying traces of ancient local history. If, indeed, the street itself had been improved, some excuse might have been found for obliterating a name which it held when most respectable families inhabited it, and when it was free from all the offences, both moral and uncleanly, which it retains under its new and unmeaning appellation. “A rose by any other name would smell as sweet.”—ED.]



VIEW UP BLUE ANCHOR LANE.



In an obscure alehouse in this street, called the Queen Charlotte, is a room fitted up with handsome wainscot, of the age of Elizabeth; and framed in the wood-work over the chimney, is a large upright stone tablet, on which is cut, in high relief, the following coat:

A chevron bordured between three shamrocks, two and one. Crest on a closed helmet in profile, a bunch of shamrocks:

Motto on a scroll below the shield, "Post tenebras spero lucem:."

Close under the scroll, the initials W. L.

Below this, on the flat of the tablet, "Nullus reprehensor formidandus amatori veritatis, 1579:." *est*

And on the moulding which runs round the whole tablet, "Sculptum Galvie in Hibernia."

The whole is in perfect preservation, and by no means ill cut. The letters are very neatly carved in relief, and the D is of uncommon if not singular form. These arms are borne by a family of the name of Lewis: and the initials seem to countenance a supposition, that this coat was placed here by some one of that family. The bearing is also that of the Abdy family; but in the repetition of this coat on the outside of the Bar-gate, already mentioned, and which probably belonged to the same family, the colours are different from the bearing of Abdy.*

In the north side of Simmel-street, and fronting the lane which forms a communication between that street and St. Michael's square, is an ancient and curious vaulted apartment, which has long been used as a cellar. It is approached, on the south, by a descent of thirteen stone steps; on the seventh of which the ancient door was placed, the hooks of its hinges still remaining; the present door, which is modern, being at the top of the steps, and level with the street. On entering the apartment, those who have seen the ancient room at Netley Abbey, which is called the abbot's kitchen, are struck with the resemblance which the two places bear to each other.

[* The interest which the Rev. T. L. Shapcott takes in our local antiquities, has led him to the discovery, that these arms, as well as those on the Bargate, belonged to William Lynch, once an alderman of the town, who lies

buried under a flat stone near the western door, in the central aisle of St. Michael's Church. He probably built the house noticed above, in what was long as respectable a street as any in the town.—Ed.]

The length of this room is thirty-four feet ten inches; the breadth, twenty-one feet seven inches; the extreme height of the vaulting, thirteen feet three inches. In the four corners, and midway between them, on the north and south sides, and at the distance from the corners of fifteen feet each way, at two feet four inches above the floor, the ribs or ramifications of the pointed arches which support the ceiling, rise from their respective groins, which are supported by heads, apparently in their original state, rudely cut, and at present much defaced. The heads are not uniform, and one appears to have shoulders supporting it. On these heads are semi-octagonal and very deep mouldings; from which rise, in each corner, one ramification, and at each side, three ramifications: these intersect in two places on the ceiling, and in the centre of the ceiling another ramification is thrown across. At the intersection nearest the east end, is the ornament of a head with flowing hair and a beard, of tolerable execution. At the other intersection is a carved flower, and the same at the middle ramification.

The south side of the building, which forms its front in Simnel-street, is occupied by the door and windows. The door is in the lower or western compartment, and is placed in the middle of one of the arches; the two windows fill up the other. The door-way, as was before observed, is on the seventh step below the present level of the street. It consists of a rather obtuse-headed arch, five feet five inches and a half wide, and five feet ten inches high; the sides of the door-way going up straight to the height of four feet four inches, from which height the arch begins to rise.

In the upper or eastern compartment of the south side, are two pointed-arched windows, now bricked up. The bottom of these is only three feet from the floor; extreme height five feet six inches; width inwards five feet six inches, but narrowing towards the street, where the width is only four feet. Width of pier between windows, one foot. In the present state of this building, the windows are completely buried, their tops being just about the level of the street.

In the centre of the east end is an ancient fire-place, projecting into the room like that at Netley, with a kind of slope like a pent-house, terminating with a large and plain moulding, which is supported by plain pillars. The front of the fire-place is now considerably damaged, but is said to have

been, within memory, rather handsome; the side pillars having been ornamented with heads below the moulding, and the middle forming an arch. Beyond the pillars, on each side, are brackets carefully finished with neat and deep mouldings, and terminating at the bottom with a sort of foliage. The chimney-place is five feet eight inches wide, projects into the room two feet ten inches, height from the ground of the moulding below the pent-house five feet two inches, slope of pent-house three feet two inches, funnel of chimney three feet by fifteen inches. In the north-east corner of the room is a stone staircase, now bricked up, but which scarcely seems to have been part of the original plan. And on the west side of the room is a door-way into an adjoining cellar, also bricked up, but evidently, in its original state, a modern perforation, and not connected with the building as it was first erected.

Adjoining this building are some old cellars; but a careful inspection of them has afforded no light as to their former probable connection with this place. The only thing remarkable in them is an aperture, somewhat like the buttery hatch in ancient buildings, but which is so obstructed with brick-work, that it seems impossible to determine whether originally it served this purpose, or was merely a cupboard; and at any rate it seems unlikely ever to have had any thing to do with this building, as, if it led any where, it must have been to a place below this.

From this street a labyrinth of winding and dirty alleys leads up to the site of the castle; which is the only remaining object of curiosity in the town. To describe it, we will return into the High-street, and go up Castle-lane, merely mentioned before in the survey of High-street. It is most probable that this street led to the principal entrance of the Castle. A small fragment of a circular tower is yet visible on the left-hand side of this street, but built up in a house; and the arched gateway was taken down in the memory of many persons now alive. The wall of inclosure is more visible on the right hand, where it passes in a curve line between some new houses, and continues nearly entire till it meets the town wall. It is about six feet thick, and stands on the top of a high bank, with a deep ditch at its foot. This bank has been dug away, so as to show the manner of the foundation of the wall, which is on large rough flat-pointed arches. This

was probably done both to save materials, and to diminish the danger of cracks from unequal settlement. The wall on the left hand of the gate is nearly destroyed; it may however be traced to its junction with the town wall, near which point a part of the wall appears in the court of an old cottage, which has a round-arched window in it, and seems to have been a handsome building.

Near this spot, in the narrow street which leads from the Castle to Bridle-gate, an arched gateway was destroyed about thirty years ago; and in the garden of the old house adjoining, there was a vaulted room of very considerable dimensions, which received light from the loops and windows mentioned in the survey of this part of the town wall. This room, by the account of an elderly bricklayer who assisted in its dilapidation, was groined, and adorned with handsome ribs with mouldings, and, as he told me, had much the appearance of a place of worship. The ribs and all the convertible stones were taken away, and the vault closed up, and so it at present remains.

The area of the Castle was of a form approaching to a semicircle, or rather a horseshoe, of which the town wall to the sea formed the diameter. The keep stood on a very high artificial mount in the southern part of the area, and probably, as was generally the case, in the line of the wall. A small modern round tower* has been built of the materials of the ancient one,

[* This tower was purchased, not long after the publication of the second edition of this book, by the late Marquis of Lansdowne, then Lord Wycombe, who resided beyond the Itchen, near Peartree Green. His lordship at first built a small square room on the western side of the tower, and made it a sort of pleasure-house for enjoying the fine panoramic view of the whole neighbourhood, which it commanded. On coming to the family estate after his father's death, the noble lord laid out vast sums in additional buildings, forming a castellated mansion; but his own early death left the plan unfinished, and the whole

fabric was sold as building materials, for a very moderate sum. The late Mr. Young, a German artist of considerable genius, long resident in Southampton, has preserved the appearance of this very temporary building, in several of his paintings: it was one of his most favourite subjects, and was a very ornamental feature of the town as seen at a distance. The noble owner was accustomed to treat with great good humour the strictures which he occasionally happened to overhear, on his placing so costly a mansion in a situation to which there was no convenient approach in any direction, by pleading the privilege of a "hobby." The fact is,

which must have been large, as well as "fair," to use the words of Leland.

The high mount and circular form of the keep, indicate an antiquity much higher than the time of Richard II., who probably only repaired and strengthened the castle.(a) The great beauty of the masonry in that part of the town wall which formed the enclosure of the castle towards the sea, and which, it may be observed, is built of a stone very different from the rest of the wall, indicates its having been restored in the reign of this monarch, when architecture had attained a very high perfection in this country.

the building was originally begun without a definite plan, and was intended to be on a small scale, till his lordship found so much amusement in extending it, that it gradually became what it finally was.—ED.]

(a) This conjecture is reduced nearly to a certainty by the following extracts, which I owe to the kindness of A. Hammond, esq.

1153. From a compromise between king Stephen and prince Henry, the bishop of Winchester was to give security for the delivery of the castle of Southampton to prince Henry, on the death of Stephen.—CARTE.

1214. Adam de Port was governor of Southampton castle. The family of De Port appears from Domesday Book to have been of great distinction, and to have possessed large estates in these parts soon after the Conquest.

1246. Commune Villæ Sudhamtoniæ debet celxx marcas, pro subtractione plurium consuetudinum pertinentium ad castrum Sudhamtoniæ et de maeremio, plumbo, et lapidibus ejusdem castri prostrati venditis.—MADOX.

1340. Richard Talbot, of the Shrewsbury family, was governor of Southampton castle.

1377. In the first year of Richard II., the French attacked Southampton, but were soon repulsed by the earl of Arundel, governor of the town, who assembled the militia. To protect the harbour and town for the future, the king built a castle on a high raised mount.—SMOLLET.

These extracts leave scarcely a doubt that Southampton castle was one of those which were dismantled in the general destruction of fortresses at the end of the reign of king Stephen; and the curious passage from Madox proves that the dilapidations were carried to a great pitch. When, therefore, Richard II. (in order to secure the town from the repeated attacks of the French and others) restored the castle, he had probably such repairs to make, as were nearly equivalent to a new building; and the current tradition, that he was the builder of the castle, is only false, inasmuch as it supposes that no castle was existing at a more ancient period.

To this account of the castle we have only to add, that a walk to the top of the keep will amply repay the trouble of the ascent. The beauty of the view is almost unrivalled; and the town itself, which we have lately been viewing in detail, lies at the feet of the observer from this point as in a map, showing, better than from any other spot, the whole compass of the walls, the course of the streets, and the relative position of the most remarkable buildings.*

It might appear a negligent omission, if the church of St. Mary's, in the suburb, was entirely unmentioned; but in truth, although tradition reports it to have been the site of the original town, yet it at present contains no remnant of the antiquity to which it lays claim. The church has been rebuilt within a century on the old foundations, which still appear a few feet above the ground†; and its spacious and well peopled church-yard does not contain a single object worthy of particular mention. The very large parsonage-house has the air of a melancholy manor-house of the era of king William, with long sash-windows and narrow piers.(a)

From the church-yard, a road not very wide, and bordered on either hand by a deep and muddy ditch, leads to the ancient mill called the Chapel mill. In this road, inconvenient as it is, an annual fair is held on Trinity Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. This fair is opened by the mayor and bailiffs, with much ceremony, on the preceding Saturday afternoon.‡ The mayor erects a pole with a large glove fixed to the top of it, near the miller's house; and the bailiff then takes possession of the fair, as chief magistrate in its precinct during the fair, and invites the mayor and his suite to a collation in his tent. He appoints a guard of halberdiers, who keep the peace by day, and watch the fair by night. During the fair,

[* Since the demolition of the marquis of Lansdowne's castellated buildings, no means exist for commanding the prospect here referred to. The best situations now existing for similar surveys, are the towers of Holy Rood and St. Michael's churches.—ED.]

[† The church has been considerably enlarged, very recently.—ED.]

(a) In February, 1802, this parsonage-house was entirely destroyed by fire; and a smaller edifice, of very neat architecture, supplies its place.

[‡ The ceremony began to be disused last year, 1840.—ED.]

no person can be arrested for debt within its precincts. On the Wednesday at noon, the mayor dissolves the fair, by taking down the pole and glove, or rather ordering it to be taken down; which till lately was done by the young men of the town, who fired at it with single balls, till it was destroyed, or they were tired with the sport. Probably it formerly was a mark for the less dangerous dexterity of the young archers.

This fair, usually called Chapel Fair, appears from a proclamation customarily read on opening it, to have been granted by Henry VII., to the town of Southampton, and William Geoffry, hermit of the hermitage of the Holy Trinity and Blessed Virgin Mary. The site of this hermitage is now the Chapel mill, which still has marks of antiquity about it; though its enlargement, about sixty years since, has left but little of its ancient ornaments, except a flank of a door, and part of an arched window.* These fragments, however, show that the style of its architecture much resembled the Chapel of St. Dionysius at Portswood. The miller's garden was the cemetery of the chapel, and bones are still dug up there. In digging near it, about thirty years since, for the purpose of building the Renown frigate, a skeleton and a ring were found. (a)

From hence the walk to the Itchen ferry, at high water, is very beautiful, commanding a view of the opposite steep and woody shore, and enlivened with a multitude of vessels of different sizes, laid up or under repair. The little round building called the Cross-house, erected for the accommodation of passengers waiting for the boat, has marks of considerable antiquity, and is not an ugly edifice. In one of the quarters are the arms of Southampton, with the date only of 1634: but parts of the building seem to be of much earlier date. At this point, the ferrymen of the Itchen ferry do homage to the mayor and corporation, whenever the perambulation of the boundaries

[* These remnants are now still further reduced to a single corbel, apparently an angel's head, on the outside of the relic of the old building, looking eastward, and two small fragments of an arched window within.—ED.]

(a) A large and curious silver ring was

found about fifty years ago in the field opposite the miller's house. It is in the possession of Arthur Hammond, esq.; and has been well engraved in the Gentleman's Magazine for November, 1802, but I cannot pretend to explain the inscription on it.

of the town is performed; and in return for the permission of landing on the demesne of the town, engage at all times to carry over gratis the burghesses and their families.*

From this point, a causey of nearly half a mile long, planted with trees, leads to the Platform and south gate. This walk, which is called the Beach, commands in its whole length a view of the Southampton Water, closed by the Isle of Wight; and it is not easy to imagine a more beautiful or interesting water scene. The view of the town is also pretty, and the new church of All Saints appears from hence to great advantage. It is to be lamented, that the marshy meadow close to the causey is not drained and improved. The salubrity of the town, and above all of the suburb of St. Mary's, calls loudly for it; and the ground in an enclosed or even a drier state, would amply repay the expense: but contested rights of common have (in this as in a thousand other instances) hitherto prevented that being done, which every body separately approves.†

Before I at the Water-gate dismiss the reader, who may have had the patience to accompany me through the narrow and dirty paths, and into the holes and corners, to which I have led him, I cannot forbear making an observation on the peculiar character of the antiquities we have been surveying. Among the many specimens of the round-arched mode of building, commonly called Saxon, not a single piece of carving exists, except the small columns within the window in the edifice of Porter's-lane, and a few leaves just sketched on the capitals of the little pillars in the building covered by the arches in the wall near West-gate; nor an ornamented moulding, except a small fragment of a billeted fascia, at the east end of St. Michael's church. The carved members of imposts and arches, so profusely used by the Normans, and particularly their favourite zigzag, do not appear ever to have existed in any of the buildings now extant in the

[* The ancient ferry is now transferred to the Floating Bridge, lately established by a company under an Act of Parliament.—Ed.]

[† A great part of the Marsh is now appropriated to the South Western Railway,

and the road to the Itchen Floating Bridge. The inhabitants, assembled in their vestries, very liberally gave up their rights without compensation, in order to forward these works of general utility.—Ed.]

town; and a great number of the arches, both of the doors and windows, of incontestably high antiquity, are flatter than a semicircle; some being segments of circles, and some semi-ellipses. The mouldings of their imposts and fascias are also in exact imitation of the Roman architecture, having very well formed quarter-rounds and cavettos. From these considerations, I cannot but be led to suspect, that they are of an antiquity considerably greater than the Norman era; and I hope that those antiquaries who may differ from me in opinion, will at least acquit me of having taken it up without some grounds.

I HAD here purposed to take my leave of those readers who have thus far borne me company; as my first intention was simply to have noticed and described those objects which now exist, worthy the attention of the curious. But having insensibly been led into several observations which rather pass the line I had first laid down, I shall trespass yet farther on the patience of my companion, and say a few words on the ancient situation of the town of Southampton, and its gradual removal from its original to its present site. In a discussion of this sort much must rest on conjecture; yet I trust that my ideas will be not unsupported by the testimony of monuments still subsisting.

That the Romans had an establishment of considerable consequence on the spot in the vicinity of this town now known by the name of Bittern, is incontestably proved by the remains of their walls yet existing, and the numerous fragments of antiquity lately brought to light in forming the road to the new bridge; and there seems very little doubt that this was the ancient Clausentum.^(a) The hamlet of Northam, which stands directly opposite to Bittern, on the southern bank of the Itchen, was probably in some degree inhabited at the same period; as coins are said to have been found there. It is probable that the mouth of the Itchen was at that time, and long afterwards, much wider than it now is, and that the water flowed in nearly a straight line from Northam to St. Mary's churchyard, and from thence to the present south gate, in a curve, not far from the line

(a) A further account of Bittern is given in the Appendix.

of the town wall, covering the whole Marsh, and the site of the buildings on the same level now called Orchard-lane, Spring-gardens, &c. Nothing, indeed, but artificial embankments, prevents the sea, at high water, from inundating these places at the present day.

In this line, the distance from Northam to St. Mary's is not great ; and the springs of Houndwell would naturally draw the inhabitants of Northam from a spot without water to one so well supplied with that most necessary article, and at least equally well situated for fishing, or other nautical occupations. This probably was the state of things, until the Saxon conquerors of the kingdom, having formed permanent establishments in the country from which they had nearly swept its ancient inhabitants, began to wage perpetual intestine wars, and of course to fortify the most important posts, after the manner of their own nation. The establishments of the Romans, which seem to have been seated in general in low situations, and near streams, did not at all suit with the northern system of fortresses ; which, particularly in the earliest times, affected elevated sites, with high towers, secured from surprise, by the view they commanded of the country around them ; and from assault, by the steep ascent of the natural or artificial mount on which they were founded. The peculiar advantages of the narrow and rather high point of land on which Southampton now stands, commanding at once the Itchen and Test, and very easily fortified on the land side, could not escape their notice ; and from the high circular hill on which the keep of the castle formerly stood, and the curved line of its yet remaining wall, we have probable grounds for supposing it to be among the most ancient of the Saxon castles. But besides the present existing fortifications, there is great reason to suspect that the northern ditch of the town, filled up within the memory of man, and of uncommon breadth and depth, was continued quite across, till it met the Itchen, and completely insulated the castle and present town. The antiquity of the Bar-gate, whose central round arch is evidently much older than any of the other gates of the town, is no small confirmation of this supposition ; as the walls and gates, with the exception of the Bar-gate, appear to have been built at once, and are very uniform in their structure, some small parts only excepted, which we shall consider more particularly presently.

It is, however, immaterial to the view of the progressive augmentation of the present town, whether this conjecture, relative to the Bar-gate and its ditch, be founded or not: as it is equally certain, under either supposition, that the castle would very soon form a town around itself; both by the habitations of those who were dependent on it as a fortress, and those who sought protection under its wings, from the multiplied dangers of that period of unceasing war and pillage. The very ancient church of St. Michael was probably founded soon after the castle, and was, as it now is, the manerial church of the town: and it is worthy of remark, that the streets immediately under the castle, are proved, by their names, to have been the original markets of the infant town; and that all the most curious remains of antiquity stretch along the shore of the Southampton water, where the castle protected them on the land side, and the sea rendered attack not very easy on any other.

The appearance of the very interesting building in Porter's-lane, and the singular square house now making part of the wall near Blue-anchor-lane, is that of houses for the habitation of secular persons of consequence; as neither of them, particularly the former, has the least appearance of a conventual edifice; and it is not at all improbable, that the Saxon kings might have a palace on the shore, commanding, as the building in Porter's-lane did, until the town wall was erected, a beautiful view of the sea, with a southern exposition, and a sheltered situation. The history of Canute's rebuke to the impious flattery of his courtiers, and which the most authentic historians state to have taken place at Southampton, proves that the town was of consequence in his time; and it is much more probable that the regal chair was placed on the sandy shore of the Southampton river, than in the black and oozy bed of the Itchen at Northam, where some have fixed the scene of this striking and characteristic story.

The very ancient hospital of God's house, whose round-arched gate, and very obtusely pointed double-headed window over it, place its erection early in the twelfth century, was probably built before the existence of the present wall, which makes an odd and irregular curve outwards, seemingly with a view to leave a passage, though a narrow one, before the church, which once had a door and porch projecting into the street.

But independent of all conjecture, there exists an indisputable proof of the early consequence of the present town of Southampton. Henry II., in a charter given by Dugdale in his *Monasticon* (vol. ii. p. 109), gives to the priory of St. Dionysius, the churches of St. Michael, Holy Rood, St. Lawrence, and All Saints, in the following words :—

“*Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse Deo et Ecclesiæ Sancti Dionysii juxta Hamtonam, &c., Capellas meas quas habebam infra Burgum de Hamptona, &c. scilicet Capellam Sancti Michaelis, et Cap. Sanctæ Crucis, et Cap. Sancti Laurentii, et Cap. Omnium Sanctorum. Quare volo, &c.*”

This charter fully proves that the four present churches were in existence so early as the reign of Henry II., which began A.D. 1154, nor are they spoken of at all as new erections, but as having been some time in the gift of the crown,—“*quas habebam.*” It may also be remarked, that they are called “*Capellæ,*” *Chapels*; St. Mary’s being probably considered as the “*Ecclesia,*” or *Church*, within whose parish they were erected. St. Michael’s is also named first, as having then, as it now has, the precedence over the rest.

We cannot desire fuller proof, that the town was then nearly or quite as large as it now is.

With respect to the date of the building of the wall as we now see it, difficulties arise in my mind. It is certain, that the northern, eastern, and that part of the southern wall west of the Water-gate, bear every mark of uniform regularity in their structure; and the gates of the town are apparently of the same date with the walls, and much resemble each other in the massy flat form of their pointed arches, which rise at an angle from their piers, being struck from centres below the level of their spring; a mode of construction used about the time of Edward II.; yet the remains of semicircular towers still visible on attentive inspection of the Bar-gate, and which flanked its round arch, very much resembling, in form and mode of building, the towers of the north and east wall, lead me to suspect, that the wall, on the land side at least, is of higher antiquity than the time of the Edwards, and that the present gates were built later than the erection of the wall. The very singular situation of the Water-gate, which retires thirty feet behind the line of the eastern part of the south wall;

and the odd position of the south gate, at the very angle of the wall, seem to indicate that these gates were not of the original design.

From the south-west angle of the wall quite to the Bridle-gate, which was close to the ballium of the castle, the whole wall is a mass of irregular and almost inexplicable construction. I cannot help being suspicious, that this side of the town, protected as it was by the Castle, and covered by the sea, was not at all, or very slightly, fortified, until the fatal experience of the sack of the town, by the French invaders, had proved that some further defence was necessary. This conjecture receives considerable strength from the appellation of "the Gravel," mentioned before to have been given to the lower end of Bugle-street, and which can scarcely be referred to any other origin, but this part of the town having been long open to the sea, and free from buildings. It may also be observed, that both French and Bugle streets now terminate most awkwardly against the wall*, which comes so near as to leave only a very narrow lane of communication between them, and seems to have been erected long after these streets were built and inhabited.

At this part I conceive the invaders to have attacked and entered the town; and the buildings incorporated in the wall near West-gate and Bridle-gate, were perhaps so far ruined by their fires, as to be deserted by their inhabitants, and relinquished by them for the purpose of fortifying this vulnerable part of the town. Although, at this distance of time, no great stress can be laid on the appearance of walls so long exposed to the weather, yet it is certain, that the eastern wall of the very ancient edifice forming part of the town wall and flanking Blue-anchor-lane, has very much the appearance of having been reddened by violent fire.

The line of wall south of the West-gate is irregular in its construction, and the wall between West and Bridle gates, which has been already described, bears evident marks of having been built in the most hasty manner, and with the greatest economy of materials; which seems the only way of accounting for the raising of the parapet on those singular arches we now see, and the forming the wall of old fronts of edifices full of apertures, which must of necessity weaken walls even without them not very thick or

[* Now removed from those parts.—ED.]

solid. This wall, in its present form, I conceive to have been built about that period when the old historians state Richard II. to have fortified the town, and built the castle; which he probably repaired and strengthened, but which evidently had been built several centuries before his time.

Whatever may be the opinion of different persons, respecting the age of the several parts of the town and its walls already mentioned, one thing is indisputably certain, that the town was not removed to its present site, as has been asserted by Leland, and after him by Grose in his *Antiquities*, in consequence of the destruction of the old town at St. Mary's by the French or Genoese, in the year 1338. Indeed, the roll of parliament quoted by Grose, ordering the town to be fortified in the very next year, is a full proof of itself that the disaster happened to the present town; as it would have been impossible for the inhabitants, ruined by pillage and fire, in that space of time to have built a large town from the ground, on a new site; whereas the repairs of a place which had suffered, however severely, from plunder and conflagration, are done with much less expense, and in a very short period. It is, however, highly probable, that the old town of St. Mary's, never very considerable, and which would naturally decline in proportion to the increase of the new town, being totally destitute of defence, suffered yet more severely than Southampton itself; and its destruction might be much accelerated by this disaster, as few would rebuild their houses without the walls, who could by any means find habitations within them.

From this period to the present time, the history of the town as a fortified place may be comprised in a few words. Edward VI. speaks of repairs done to the walls by the citizens for his reception; and from his time to the present day, they have probably never been touched but for their destruction. The increasing strength of the nation, and yet more the augmented size of ships of war, now too large to enter with safety those rivers and creeks, which formerly were the most secure havens, have combined to insure from attack the ancient ports of the country; and the walls of our cities are, by a felicity on which every Englishman will reflect with gratitude and respect, rendered merely ornaments to those towns where every house is a castle to its owner, fenced by laws stronger than the brazen

walls of Merlin. That this glorious bulwark may be also "ære perennius," is a wish in which all, I trust, will join, but the antiquary with peculiar feeling, who views it not merely as a present impregnable guard, but as the venerable work of his forefathers.

ACCOUNT
OF
ANTIQUITIES
DISCOVERED AT THE
ANCIENT ROMAN STATION,
CLAUSENTUM (NOW BITTERN),
NEAR SOUTHAMPTON.
WITH SOME ADDITIONS, INTRODUCTORY AND SUPPLEMENTARY,
BY JOHN BULLAR.

NOTICE TO THE READER.

THE attention of Sir H. C. Englefield was first directed to the antiquities of Clausentum in 1800; when he addressed a letter on the subject to the Conductor of the Hampshire Repository, a useful local work edited by the late Rev. Edmund Poulter, which did not receive sufficient encouragement to induce its projector to continue it beyond two volumes. Subsequently, in 1804 and 1805, the possessor of the site of the remains of Clausentum at that time, in making various alterations, made also some new discoveries, which Sir H. E. described in 1805. In republishing these two separate papers, the convenience of the reader will best be consulted by a new arrangement of the materials, and by the insertion of some explanatory paragraphs. These will be inclosed in brackets, and the statements of the author will be retained in his own words as nearly as possible, and distinguished by inverted commas.

JOHN BULLAR.

July, 1841.

ANTIQUITIES

OF THE

ANCIENT ROMAN STATION.

[A LITTLE more than a mile from Southampton, immediately beyond the modern structure called Northam Bridge, erected by a company to shorten the distance between the West of England and Portsmouth, is the site of the ancient Roman military station, which bore the name of Clausentum. The accompanying plan, drawn by Sir H. C. Englefield in 1804, will enable those who may be disposed to explore the spot, to make out the original disposition of this ancient fortress. Though the references to remains of the Roman wall and to an ancient barn, do not describe the actual state of the place at this time, it has been judged expedient to retain them in connexion with the statements which are to follow.

[Until Northam bridge was built, there was no roadway to this place except what belonged to Bittern farm. The farm-house then standing on the spot now occupied by the residence of Mrs. Stuart Hall, which being originally, it would seem, a "stately Saxon or Norman edifice," and afterwards becoming a farm-house, was converted into a hotel soon after the completion of the bridge; but, not being found to receive that support which had been anticipated for such an establishment here, was subse-

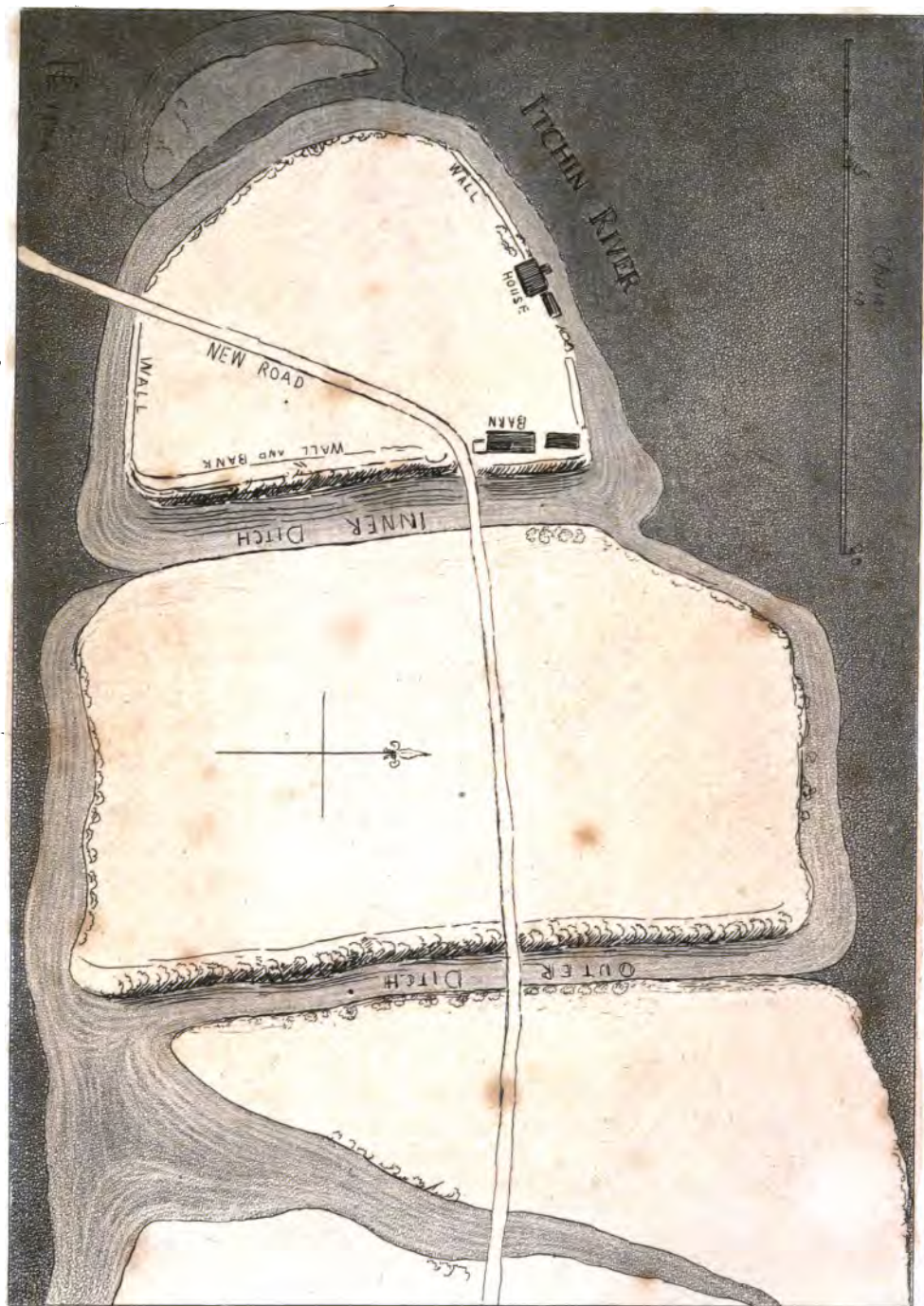
quently turned into a private dwelling house, being altered by successive occupants, until it assumed its present appearance.

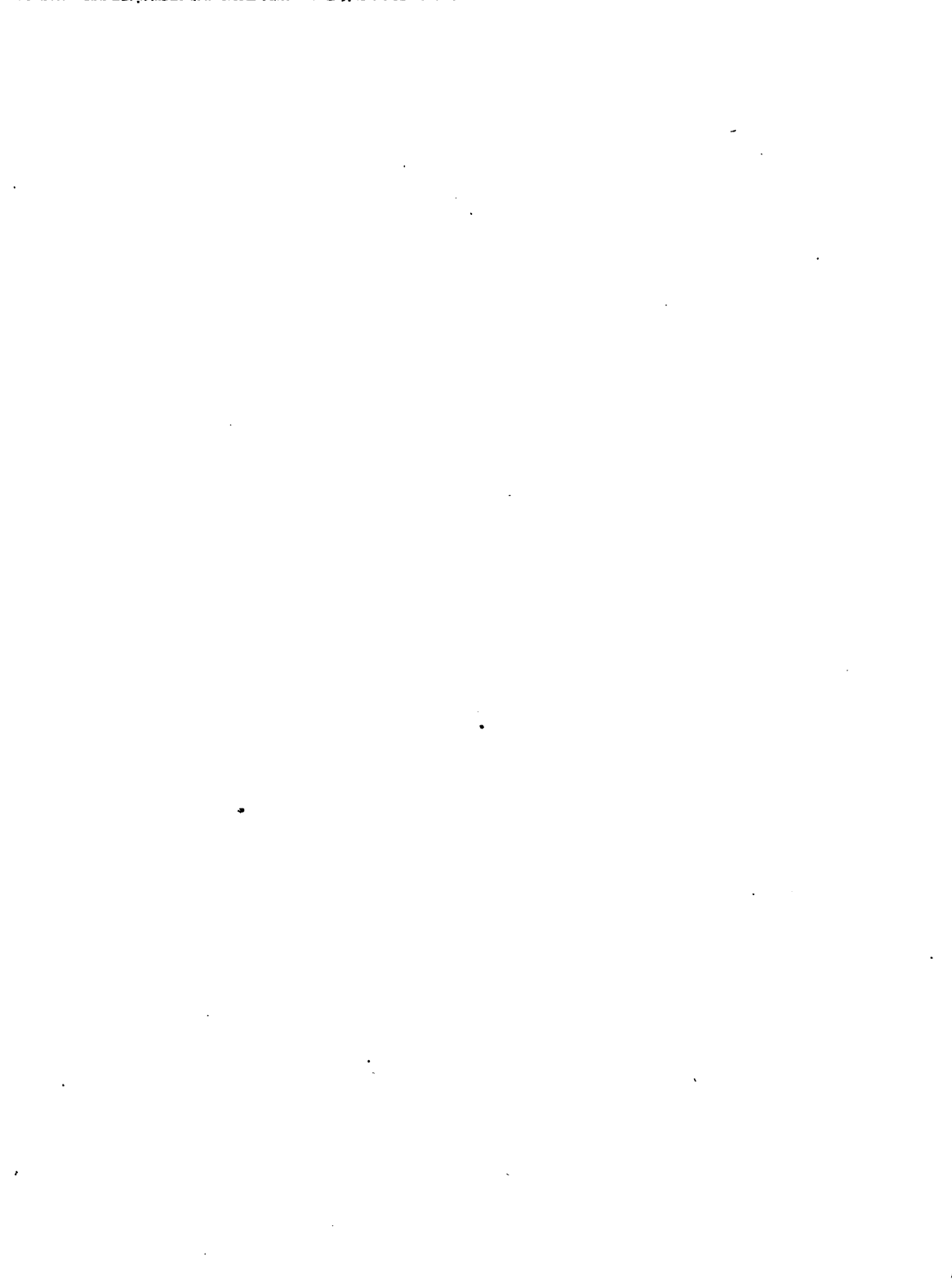
[Before the bridge was built, the approach to this place was either by a pathway among fields from Itchen ferry; or, in a northerly direction along the banks of the Itchen, from Woodmill, by what had probably been a portion of the ancient military Roman road between Clausentum and Venta Belgarum (now Winchester); or by crossing the Itchen in a boat. Then (that is, between forty and fifty years ago), as soon as you reached that portion of territory which lies farthest to the west on the plan, you had most demonstrative traces that Romans had been there. All along the shore were remnants of the fortifying walls, with many of the large square bricks well known to be of Roman fabrication, and differing materially from ours, being about as large as three of those now in use laid side by side, but not thicker than one of them. Roman coins and fragments of Roman pottery were also frequently turned up by the plough.

[A century ago, remnants of ancient masonry were more numerous on this spot; and, from tradition, we learn that considerable buildings were removed as long ago as the time of Queen Elizabeth; some of which, it is stated, were employed in building the ancient chapel of ease on Pear Tree Green, which was consecrated by Lancelot Andrews, the learned and pious Bishop of Winchester, in the reign of James the First.

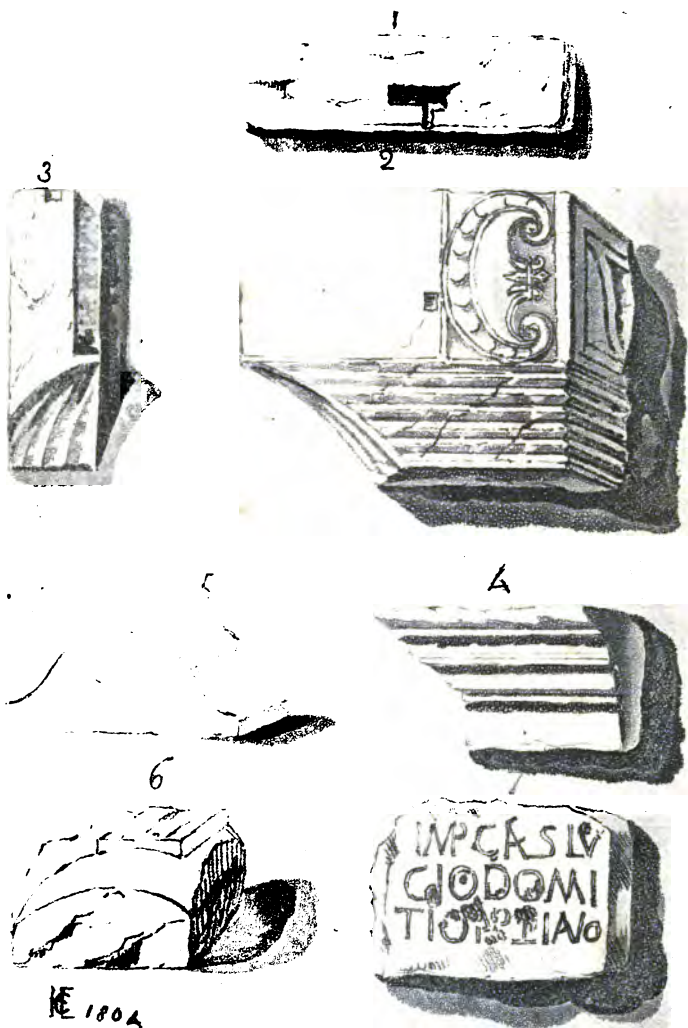
[The reader will clearly perceive, on referring to the accompanying plan, that the original station comprehended a nearly triangular space to the extreme west, which was surrounded by a strong wall. Some portions of this wall still remain, on the northern part, and near the mansion of Mrs. Hall. Much more considerable remains of the wall were standing in 1804, when the plan was drawn. Vestiges of towers have been made out at various times, and, apparently, of a gateway leading to a drawbridge. The whole space now described, was insulated by means of a ditch marked in the plan "inner ditch," formed to admit the water of the Itchen, and running directly north and south. The earth dug from the ditch appeared, forty years ago, before it was levelled, to have been employed in forming a bank in aid of the thickness of the fortifying wall. Immediately east of the triangular spot thus fortified, was an outer fortification, pretty nearly a

PLAN OF ROMAN STATION AT BITTERN.









ANTIQUITIES FOUND AT BITTERN.

parallelogram, defended by an embankment, and by a second ditch admitting the waters of the Itchen. This outer ditch is still distinctly traceable, running north and south in a straight line, a part of it being immediately below a small public-house, which stands on the south or right-hand side of the road as you come from the bridge eastward.

[The lighter shading in the plan shows the ground which is covered only by spring tides; the darker by ordinary tides. At low water, the whole is a mud bank.

[The "Barn," marked in the plan, has been demolished within the last forty years. "In the west front were four windows of peculiarly excellent masonry, and very uncommon form."]

"In the plate, fig. 5, are parts of the coping of some large edifice; for their curve is reversed, and dies away against the shoulder like a cima. But fig. 6 puts the matter beyond a doubt; for this is the corner stone of the same coping; and the convex part goes off two ways at a right angle; and the square die at their union has probably had some ornament affixed to it, as cramp holes appear in it. The coping stones are of different lengths, from three to four feet, and are twelve in number, including some in the foundation of a small turret or bastion projecting outwards from the line of the eastern Roman wall. Near these, in the foundation of a part of the same turret, was a small fragment of a very mutilated cornice, fig. 4, which probably belonged to the small edifice next mentioned.

"With these stones was the one figured 1, 2, and 3. This formed half the front of some small projecting building, or niche for the reception of a statue. Fig. 2 shows, by the return of the fluted architrave, and some part of an ornament on the frieze, that it was a corner stone. The curvature of the niche proves it was half the frontispiece. The central part of the frieze is excavated to receive a thin slab, probably of marble, with an inscription. This was fastened by cramps, the holes of which are visible in figs. 2 and 3, and in one of which was a piece of lead which had fastened the iron. The top of the stone, fig. 1, has, besides the cramp hole in front, a larger towards the back, which fixed it to the wall; and a deeper hole,

which either was a lewis hole for raising it, or served to connect it by a pin or tenon with the cornice. Fig. 3, the end view of the stone, shows the depth of the hollowed part of the frieze where the tablet was placed. The sculpture of this stone is not very bad: the lunated shield often occurs on sepulchral stones. The flutings or grooves in the architrave, which die away against the niche, are of a singular and very corrupt taste. The niche was formed into a shell, which is an ornament, it is believed, only used in the later ages. Probably this building, for whatever use intended, may be of the age of Aurelian; an inscription to whose honour shall presently be mentioned.

"Fig. 7 is as exact a copy as could be made of an inscription which was dug up a good while ago, and was preserved in the farm house at Bittern. The stone does not appear to have been squared, or even regularly cut, except on the face on which the inscription is engraved; yet, from its upright form, it does not seem adapted to have been part of a wall. It evidently never was wider than it is, nor probably much higher. The inscription is in letters of tolerably good form, and, except the last word, which is much effaced, probably by the point of the pickaxe that discovered it, is perfectly legible. This last word by accurate inspection may still be traced, and the inscription is as follows: IMP CÆS LVCIO DOMITIO AVRELIANO. In the drawing, particular attention has been given, to mark the small remains of the connected letters AVR and EL, that it may be seen how far this reading is justified. There can, however, be very little doubt respecting the word, when it is considered that the only person who assumed the purple with the names of Lucius Domitius, was an Egyptian usurper, of the name of Lucius Domitius Domitian, in the time of Dioclesian, who for two or three years maintained his rebellion at Alexandria. It is utterly improbable that such a usurper should have been commemorated in this remote island.

"On the beach was found a very rude capital, which was worked into the Roman west wall. The leaves were just marked out, and the whole was so very bad both in design and execution, that it may very possibly be some Saxon capital stuck in to mend a breach in the wall, in the period when this ancient station was a castellated mansion.

"The Roman wall itself was singular in its construction. Its height cannot be ascertained. Its thickness was about nine feet, and its materials flint, faced very roughly with square small stones, and a bending course of large flat bricks running through its interior part; but it is extraordinary that it had no foundation whatever, but was literally set down on the surface of the ground, and was therefore undermined by the waters of the Itchen, which only reached it at spring tides. A large bank of earth was thrown up against it in the inner side; and in the only place where its interior construction was examined, it seemed as if, at a distance of about nine feet within the outer wall, another wall of about two feet thick had been erected, seemingly as a sort of strengthening to the rampart of earth. Of this, however, it is not intended to speak with certainty.

"Within the area of the ancient wall, the remains of two very coarse pavements, or rather plaster floors, were once visible; one in the bank to the left of the new road, which had been in part washed away by the Itchen; the other in the ditch to the right of the road, about midway between the two walls. In digging in the field, a fragment of plaster was thrown up, painted with a durable red colour, with a narrow white stripe on it. It seems not unworthy of remark, that the whole soil, as well within the wall as between the wall and outer ditch marked in the Plan, was full, not only of fragments of brick and tiles of various forms, but of small pieces of that beautiful earthenware, the colour, polish, and grain of which, when broken, considerably resemble fine sealing-wax. The ditches dug through these fields for the new road have afforded numerous pieces of this ware; some of them plain, some of them embossed with animals, masks, thyrsi, lyres, ears of corn, and poppies. As this ware is not uncommonly found in Roman stations in this country, and more perfect specimens have been engraved, no drawings had been taken of them. The subjects appeared to be nearly similar in all, and evidently of a mystic tendency. An ornament at the top of the embossed part, like a deep festooned fringe with tassels between each festoon, was almost universal in them. Those fragments that were plain appeared to be of forms not much adapted to the uses of common life, being mostly dishes from 6 to 10 inches diameter, with a low upright rim, and standing on a small foot, not unlike old-

fashioned silver salvers. It has been therefore imagined that these were all of them sacred utensils, and probably imported into this country for the purpose of sacrifice. One of the fragments had been perforated with very neat radiated holes, in regular order, so as to serve as a cullender. These holes had been drilled after the vessel was baked. A few fragments occurred of a fine black ware, nearly as thin as Wedgwood's ware, and covered with a metallic lustre; perhaps owing to long lying under ground. Fragments of vases, of a coarse earth, not finer than our garden pots, were pretty common; and some of these appeared to have been of very considerable size. The largest were red, some others of a dirty brown, like unbaked clay. Those in which ashes and coins have been found were of the latter sort. One of these, the fragments of which were in the possession of Mr. Waring, once a proprietor of Bittern, presented, when found, a most singular appearance. The vessel containing the bones and ashes was enclosed within another which nearly fitted it, and whose mouth was so narrow as by no means to have admitted it in its hardened state. Probably the outer vessel must have been originally broken, and then its parts placed round the inner one when buried, by way of security from injury.

"Several ivory or bone pins were found in the same field, such as Sir Christopher Wren mentions having discovered in digging the foundation of St. Paul's. These were from three to four inches in length, with blunt points and round heads; and were probably used for fastening the shrouds in which bodies were buried. A fine and perfect glass urn was also found, but was unfortunately destroyed."

[Subsequently, in 1804 and 1805, while this property was held by Mr. Simpson, who demolished the remains of the Roman wall, further discoveries were made.]

"The whole of the ground that was turned up was full of fragments of the same fine red pottery already described, but nothing particularly worthy of notice among them occurred, excepting one fragment of a large shallow vessel, which had a perforation in its side, ornamented externally with a lion's head, of coarse work, which seems to have served for a spout. On the bottom of many of the fragments were impressed names, probably of the makers; of these Dr. Latham made out the following: CRESCENI;

SEVERI ; MALIVRN ; AMATICICI ; SACRI OF ; LVPIM ; AESFIVINA ; CVFF ; ACOM ; LVPPA ; CEN.... ; MACIOF ; DOECA ; EPPN ; OF SAB ; ADIECTIM ; OF NIGRI. And on the side of one large fragment, representing a stag hunt, is the word ADVOCISI, in a larger and fairer letter than the other stamps.

"Several coins were found, mostly of the lower empire, but none which appeared to be curious or rare.

"On the north side of the new road, and nearly half way between the wall and the bridge, a very considerable number of skeletons was found, not less than fifty. They were laid east and west, and had apparently been buried in coffins of wood fastened with iron nails, of which a great many were found with small portions of wood adhering to them. It is remarkable that all the teeth in every one of the jaws were quite perfect ; a circumstance which seems to indicate that the bodies were of young men, probably of soldiers, slain in some engagement ; evidently, however, by the mode of sepulture, at a period later than the Roman inhabitancy of the spot.

"Just within the outer fosse, and a little south of the road, a hollow was found, which seems to have been either a well or a small winding staircase. Within the inner fosse another well was discovered, about two feet and a half in diameter. When found it was empty to about eight feet deep ; in it was a human skeleton, under the neck of which was a large stone with a hole in it. This circumstance renders it probable, that the person, whose remains were thus found, had been murdered by drowning in the well, with a stone fastened to the neck.

"The well was cleared out to the depth of ten or twelve feet ; and in it were found two ancient iron keys, much corroded ; and a perfect metal jug, holding three pints, and nearly of the form of an old-fashioned ewer, but apparently not Roman.

"The most material discoveries, however, were made in the course of levelling and filling the inner fosse, north of the road, for the purpose of making a kitchen garden. The whole of the ancient eastern wall was by this traced. It terminated to the north in a round tower of solid masonry. This tower was about eighteen feet in diameter ; and traces of a similar tower were observed at the southern extremity of the wall. These two towers were

probably Roman, and parts of the original wall; but at the distance of about seventy-eight feet from the northern tower, another semicircular tower or buttress was discovered, of twenty-four feet in diameter; whose foundations were composed of very large stones, taken from some more ancient building. Several of these were similar to those which were described in page 65, which I have supposed to be coping stones. Several fragments of different cornices were also found; one of them with the mouldings enriched in no contemptible taste.

"A rude base of a column was also discovered, and many stones with inscriptions, some nearly illegible, others very fair. Of these the most worthy of notice is a very perfect small altar, dedicated to the goddess Ancasta; a deity hitherto unknown to antiquaries, and therefore of considerable curiosity. It is likely that she was some local divinity or tutelary nymph, but the name does not lead to a probable surmise to what country she belonged. It would be too bold a conjecture to suppose, from the first syllable, that she was connected with the river An or Ant, of which we have spoken in the beginning of this work; but it may not, possibly, be foreign from the subject to observe, that the Gaulish and British goddess of victory was called Andate or Andraste.



"The annexed representation is to a scale of an inch to a foot, as are those of the other inscriptions. The inscriptions themselves are copied with great care, after impressions taken from the stones themselves.

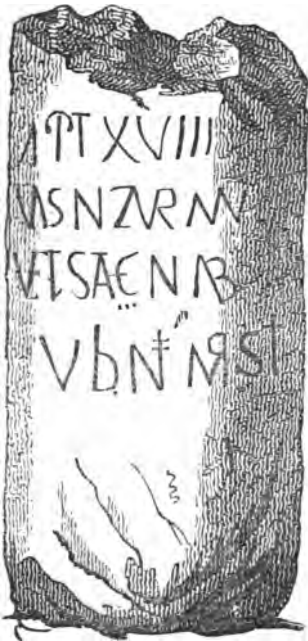
"The inscription may be thus read: DEÆ ANCASTÆ GEMINVS MANIVS LIBENS MERITO; for if the letters VSLM, in the last line,

be supposed to stand for "votum solvit libens merito," as they often do, the proper name must be Mani, which is of an unusual form.

"The next in point of importance, appears to be a fragment of a miliary column. It is eighteen inches in diameter, of a solid blackish stone. The back part is left rough, as if intended to be fixed against a wall.

"No reading of the inscription, which is of very rude workmanship, has been hazarded.

" The three following are votive or dedicatory. The first is to the emperor Gordian, probably the Younger.



"It is of very rude work, and may be read as follows: IMPERATORI CÆSARI MARCO ANTONIO GORDIANO PIO FELICI AVGVSTO RP.B.I. Of the three Gordians, the youngest only bore the name of Pius; but it is possible that the letter P might not be the name of the emperor, but one of the usual titles, Pius, Felix.

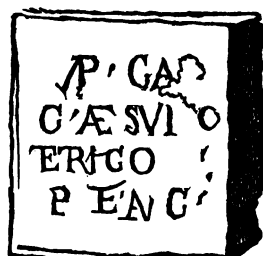
"The next is to the emperors Gallus and Volusianus.

"It is as rude as possible, but easily legible: IMPERATORIBVS
CÆSARIBVS GALLO ET VOLVSIANO AVGVSTIS.



"The last is to the tyrant Tetricus : it is on a square stone, and of very neat workmanship.

"It is not entirely legible, the first line being much injured. It may safely be read as follows :
AP. CA -- CAIO. ÆSVLO. TE-
TRICO. PIO. ET. AVGVSTO.



"This inscription is singular, from the name of Æsulus preceding that of Tetricus, whose family name was Pivesus, Poresuvius, or Pivesuvius ; but neither the father or son ever appear to have borne a name approaching to Æsulus ; and though, from the great variety in the spelling of the name on different medals, its orthography appears to have been uncertain, yet Æsulus is too far distant from all the readings, to render it probable that it was intended for any of them.

"On the inscriptions found at Bittern, it may be remarked, that four of them are votive to the several emperors named in them. In Horsley's *Britannia Romana* a few occur in the same form, generally on stones approaching

more or less to a columnar shape; Horsley call them miliary, which they evidently cannot be, as neither place nor distance is mentioned on them. Besides, the discovery of four on one spot would alone destroy this supposition. From the rudeness of their form, they cannot be supposed to have been the bases of statues; and indeed they seem too rude to have been placed within any temple or public building. Perhaps they might have been mere memorials of the accession of the sovereign whose name they bear, and placed in the Forum or Campus Martius of the station, when its garrison took the oath of allegiance. This, however, must be merely matter of conjecture.

"Few spots could be found more interesting, [forty years ago,] either to an antiquary or a painter, than Bittern. From the Roman wall were seen the Saxon remains mingled with those of the 15th century. On the opposite shore was the old brick mansion of Northam, with its elegant fluted chimneys. A little further, on the east, the white gable of St. Dionysius's ruined chapel attracted the eye; while the spires and towers of the venerable Southampton, full of curious remains of antiquity, of almost every date, from the earliest Saxon to the age of James the First, formed a distance to the west.

"The sweeps of the Itchen, with their bold shores covered with hanging woods of noble oaks, present on every side scenes of unrivalled beauty; and the name of Bevois Mount unites the recollection of an old, and perhaps fabulous, British hero, with that of a man whose courage and adventures were scarcely less romantic than those of the most famous Paladins, and who, to these high qualities, added a refined taste for elegant art and polite literature. What Englishman can look without respect on the shades where the Earl of Peterborough walked with Arbuthnot and Pope! Hampshire readers will, I trust, forgive me, if I add, with peculiar and personal interest, that this classical spot has not long since been haunted by another poet.

[Bevois Mount, originally the property of the celebrated Earl of Peterborough, was once occupied for a time by William Sotheby, Esq. It is on this account that Sir H. E. alludes to it as "the haunt of a poet:" one to whom, as a personal friend, he was strongly attached.

[Mr. Sotheby sustained, through life, the character of a refined and an elegant scholar; among whose numerous productions, his translation of Wieland's *Oberon*, and his subsequent successful version of the *Georgics* of Virgil, "close, flowing, and harmonious," were the most distinguished. When he had passed his 70th year, he executed a rhymed version of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*—a surprising performance for one so advanced in life, and possessing great comparative merit in its close adherence to the original. Mr. Sotheby was not alone an elegant scholar; he was a kind and liberal benefactor to those who needed his pecuniary aid. He died December 30, 1833, aged 76.

[The delicate allusion here made by Sir H. E. to the genius of his friend while living, was repaid by the latter, after the death of the accomplished baronet, in a eulogy pronounced before the Society of Dilletanti, of which Sir H. E. had been the secretary, March 31, 1822.*

[As more than forty years have elapsed since the author of the *Walk* through Southampton took up his occasional abode in the town, and another generation, to whom he was unknown, are occupying the places of those who knew him, it may not be out of place to close this little volume with a brief memorial.

[Sir Henry Charles Englefield, Bart., was the last of a family, whose antiquity has been traced up to the Anglo-Saxon period of our history. At the time of the Reformation, they maintained their adherence to the Roman Catholic religion; one, at least, of their line, suffered imprisonment, losses, and exile, for his faith; and Sir Henry, through life, adhered to the hereditary belief. The date of the baronetcy was 1612: some members of the family had been knighted previously, and had held public posts of honour and trust.

[Sir Henry was born in 1752, had great educational advantages, and devoted himself through life to literary and scientific pursuits. The range

* Preserved in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, May 1822, p. 418.

of his attainments was very extensive, yet not the less accurate and profound. There was scarcely any branch of knowledge, either useful or ornamental, with which he was not familiarly conversant: in all arts and sciences, an enlightened judge; in many, no inconsiderable proficient. He had thus entitled himself to the eulogy of his friend:—"Let us question the astronomer, enlightened by his observations; the chemist, enriched by his experiments; the geologist, whose labours have been facilitated by the perfection of his instruments; the painter, whose faint and fading colours have received lustre and permanency from his investigations:—let us inquire of many an artist, now flourishing in the sunshine of prosperity, but who, in his first struggle, seemed 'born to blush unseen,' *whose* patronage encouraged, *whose* judgment directed, *whose* liberality sustained him? From all these will be heard one answer, one consentient voice of eulogy mingled with sorrow. Let us, I will not say search, but open at random the printed transactions of societies, the repositories, the inquiries, the disquisitions, and the discoveries of the man of letters, the philosopher, and the antiquary; and in all these will be found abundant proofs of the spirit of research, and of the cultivation and meritorious employment of the natural gifts, of Sir Henry Englefield. Charles Fox was wont to say, that he never departed from his company uninstructed. The kindness of his heart, and the warmth of his affections through life, endeared him to his friends. In all his dealings he was singularly accurate and highly honourable. None that ever enjoyed his society, could fail of feeling a glow from the sunshine of his temper. None, of that extensive circle of talent and of cultivated intellect, of which he was the attractive centre, but must have admired the beauty, the extent, the accuracy, of his remarks; the spirit and vivacity of his converse, his easy and unassuming, yet persuasive and impressive eloquence; his flow of fancy, his correctness of judgment, and his singular gift of memory." He died March 21, 1822, aged 70.]

"On thee the tomb has closed: 'twas mine to hear
 The dull dead sound, as o'er thy grave I hung,
 When dust to dust was on thy relics flung;
 And my heart answer'd with a farewell tear.

Now, dim thine eye, where Fancy's brightest ray
Beam'd forth ; now mute thy lip, where science flow'd :
Cold, cold thy bosom, that with kindness glow'd,
Whose sunshine was the summer of my day.
Friend of my youth,—my age,—we ne'er again
Shall meet on earth ; yet, tho' awhile we part,
Blest spirit ! breathe thy peace within my heart,
To soothe the grief that prompts this votive strain !
“ We ne'er shall look upon his like again !”

WM. SOTHEY.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATES.

ENGRAVED TITLE.

The engraved title-page, composed from fragments extant in the town.

The arch is that mentioned in page 8, as existing in the room, in the Town-hall adjoining the grand jury-room.

The bas-relief of two heads is noticed in page 21.

The niche work on the stone, on which the upper part of the title is engraved, is copied from that of the conduit in the High-street, near the friary. See page 30.

The three monograms at the bottom of the plate are mentioned in page 41. The middle one is that in St. Michael's church; that to the left is in St. Mary's church-yard; that to the right, at Romsey.

The Gothic letter, in which the title is engraved, is copied from that of the mayoralty seal.

PAGE 15.

Measured elevation of the five southernmost arches in the town wall, with the more ancient buildings covered by them. This elevation is drawn to a scale of ten feet to an inch.

PAGE 16.

Another part of the arches in the wall of the town, showing the remains of the very singular building, partly destroyed, and then brought to make a part of the wall. The view comprehends the arches described as eight, nine, ten, and eleven. This elevation is drawn to the same scale with the other, being ten feet to an inch.

PAGE 28.

The regalia of the corporation. The mace, oar, and sword, are not drawn in their real proportions, but are each copied exactly from the originals. The mace is the most ancient one belonging to the corporation. On each side are seals. The ship is copied as exactly as the size would allow, from the silver mayoralty seal. The three figures in niches, are the reverse of the corporation seal now in use.

The shield in the centre has the arms of the town.

PAGE 28.

The two seals described in the note. The large one is the seal for recognizances. The small one, the seal of the staple.

PAGE 32.

View looking west, in Porters'-lane. The ancient building is on the right. The two remaining central windows are seen, and the two lateral windows beyond them on the west

side. Between the great opening and the upper window, near the eye, a small part of the moulding of the nearest lateral window, to the east of the centre, is visible. The farthest eastern window is out of the picture. To the left, are the warehouses, with the covered footway running under them.

PAGE 34.

Elevation of the central part of the building in Porter's-lane; comprehending the triple great window, and one of the two smaller windows on each side of it. The vestiges of the two doors also appear. This elevation extends forty-eight feet, and is drawn to a scale of a quarter of an inch to a foot.

PAGE 40.

Inside view of St. Michael's church, taken from the south door, looking north. The gates seen laterally to the right, open into the chancel. The semicircular arches support the tower.

PAGE 42.

Font in St. Michael's church. In the compartment to the right of the plate, is a fourth part of the top of the font, showing its ornaments; and below, an elevation of the font.

PAGE 44.

View up Blue-anchor-lane, showing the side of the very ancient building mentioned in pages 15 and 44.

PAGE 64.

Plan of the Roman station at Bittern. The buildings marked *house* and *barn*, are of high antiquity. Between the barn and new road, was a gateway, now destroyed. On the other side of the road, the foundation of the tower is marked, out of which the large coping stones were taken.

The lighter shading shows the ground covered by spring tides, the darker by ordinary tides. At low water the whole is a mud bank.

This plan is in great part taken from that published in the first volume of the Hampshire Repository.

PAGE 65.

Antiquities found at Bittern. No. 1, 2, and 3, are top, side, and front views of the stone supposed to have been part of the front of an ornamented niche. No. 4 is a mutilated cornice. No. 5, one of the coping stones erroneously called semicolumns. No. 6, view of a fragment of an angular stone of the same coping. No. 7, an inscription to Aurelian. This last has been found some years. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7, are drawn to a scale of a quarter of an inch to a foot.

THE END.

DEC 18 1956

